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Warning on Europe's 'Trojan horse'

Major takes poll battle to Brussels

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR will today blame European Union policies for mass unemployment across the continent and give a warning that acceptance of the social chapter in Britain would lead to all the problems that "brought us to our knees" in the 1970s.

The Prime Minister will deliver his attack in Brussels, but his underlying message will be aimed at the domestic audience as he seeks to highlight the biggest policy difference between the Conservatives and Labour. Labour has promised to sign the social chapter — which Mr Major will liken to a Trojan horse, saying: "Over-regulation does not work. As a result, not do millions of Europeans."

He will tell businessmen at a meeting organised by the European Policy Forum that if Labour did sign up, there could be no turning back, saying: "It is no good pretending that once you have signed, you back out if you change your mind. It is not some moral mistake you can send back if you do not like it."

He will also state his belief that the EU is at a turning point, with a choice between

the British vision of an enterprise economy and the European "social model".

Mr Major's remarks are, however, likely to be dismissed by fellow European leaders. Alain Juppé, the French Prime Minister who held talks with Mr Major at Downing Street yesterday, immediately denied that the social chapter had hindered job creation in France.

And John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, said that "no amount of lies about Labour will cover up Tory divisions on Europe".

Mr Major's speech comes as the Government confronts Europe as a key election issue.

Yesterday Michael Heseltine tried to depict the Tories as the better defenders of British

interests when he unveiled a new poster showing a lion with a red tear in its eye and the slogan "New Labour, Euro Danger". And Mr Major clearly believes that the social chapter provides more fertile ground than the single currency for "attack" on the Opposition.

There was a surprisingly muted response to Robin Cook's statement on Sunday

that a Labour government might join a single currency. Ministers said that it proved Labour was adopting a "judge and enter" approach as opposed to the Government's "negotiate and decide" posture. But pro-European ministers were saying privately that the Government had to show extreme care in responding to Mr Cook: The whole business world is asking questions about the single currency and the impact of not going in. We cannot wash our hands of it. Our line must be to decide what is in Britain's best interests."

Mr Major is, however, happy to emphasise the gap with Labour on social policy and tonight he will be caustic about Europe's attitude to competitiveness, which he regards as "fundamentally flawed". He will say: "Today Europe faces a new challenge — how to keep our companies competitive and our people in work in the face of intense competition. Crudely the choice is between two different philosophies: the enterprise approach and the social model."

He intends to contrast costs in Germany, France and Italy with those in Britain and point to what he says will be damaging new regulations under the social chapter — including shifting the burden of proof in sex discrimination cases to the employer and increasing rights for part-time workers.

M. Juppé, however, insisted yesterday that there was no link between the social chapter and job creation — and he pointed to the recent drop in French unemployment.

The French Prime Minister also reaffirmed his belief that economic and monetary union would go ahead on time in 1999, with France as a participant and he urged Britain to join at the outset. Kenneth Clarke was meanwhile at an economic summit in Switzerland, repeating his doubts that the single currency target date could be met.

The campaign is being run with the assistance of Clayton Heely International, a direct marketing agency.

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Tory mailshot to shareholders

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND ADAM JONES

THE Prime Minister yesterday launched a £500,000 campaign to portray Labour as the "enemy of enterprise" by writing to private shareholders telling them that they would lose money under a Labour government.

More than 2.3 million letters bearing Mr Major's signature, carry a warning that recipients will be penalised by Labour's plan to impose a windfall tax on privatised utilities to "punish" their success".

Conservative Central Office bought lists of shareholders in the privatised utilities at an estimated cost of £200,000.

The letters and postage are believed to have cost an extra £300,000. The letters were to owners of shares in Railtrack, the regional water and electricity companies, PowerGen and National Power, and British Energy, the nuclear power operator. Further letters to shareholders of other privatised companies, such as BT, BA and British Gas, have not been ruled out. There may also be letters on controversial issues such as the social chapter.

The campaign is being run with the assistance of Clayton

Heely International, a direct

marketing agency.

Reluctant hero's Colditz story

The death of Birand Nath Mazumdar, who lived in retirement in the Devon village of Galmpton, has brought to light the story, kept secret for fifty years, of a reluctant hero who made a "home run" from Colditz. Page 6

Changing fortunes of the Lottery

By JOANNA BALE

THE sharp contrast between the way in which lottery winners handle their fortunes after they have become overnight millionaires was revealed yesterday.

Penny Haigh, who won £1.3 million, still buys her clothes in Oxford shops and has been away on little more than a weekend visit to see friends in Britain since her win last year.

Esther Tracey, who won the same amount, has been working her way around the world on exotic holidays while Mel Eddison has spent all of his £2.5 million jackpot in 18 months on a large house, expensive cars and paying off business debts.

The three were among 25 winners, worth a total of £40 million, invited to a champagne launch of the Lottery's first mid-week draw in London.

Mrs Haigh, 46, from Don-

caster, who helps run the family engineering business, said: "We were quite well off

before the win, but at one time I could only afford second-hand clothes from Oxfam and it's difficult to change the habit of a lifetime, even with all that money in the bank."

"It's nice to be able to invest the money to provide a secure future for all of us, so I have no desire to start spending it all. We are still going to keep the business going and have not missed a day's work."

She and her husband, John,

are about to hand over their business to their two sons, but they have no plans for a luxurious retirement. Mr Haigh said: "We don't want to retire — we just enjoy our life as it is."

Mr Eddison, who was already a self-made millionaire from his pallet company and garage business, has enjoyed 18 months of "non-stop spending". He learned of his win while holidaying at his French

chateau and confessed: "It's all gone. I bought a half million pound mansion, a £60,000 Mercedes, gave £380,000 to family and friends and paid off all my business debts off. It was fun while it lasted, but I've still got my French chateau and my Spanish villa."

Miss Tracey, 26, from Poplar, East London, an unemployed nursery nurse, has been on so many holidays since her win in 1995 that she has "lost count". Those she can remember include Paris, Florida, a Caribbean cruise, Madeira, Wales, Ireland, Tenerife, Lanzarote and even Blackpool, Clacton, Southend and Manchester.

She is renting a "yuppie" Docklands apartment overlooking the Thames, but is hoping to buy a house nearby with an extra bedroom — just for her new clothes.

When asked whether she has developed a penchant for designer clothes, she confesses: "I still shop at Evans — I'm too well-built for anything else."

All or nothing at all: Penny Haigh and Mel Eddison

Stepfather arrested in Zoe hunt

POLICE investigating the disappearance of Zoe Evans, aged nine, yesterday arrested her stepfather (Kathryn Knight writes).

Zoe, who would have been ten on January 27, went missing from her home in Wimborne, Dorset, on January 11. Despite police searches, still continuing yesterday, she has not been found.

Her mother, Paula Evans, 28, and stepfather, Miles Evans, 23, a private in the Royal Logistic Corps, were arrested and questioned for three days last month, but released without charge. Yesterday Mr Evans was rearrested.

Mrs Evans checked on Zoe, tucking her in, at 10.30pm on Friday, January 10. The bed was empty the next morning.

Fears for her safety grew when two items stained with her blood were found on a railway embankment.

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check us out

MPs' surge of millennial fever hits rock bottom

A boil on the bum of the millennium. This was the description offered by Austin Mitchell (Lab, Great Grimsby) of the Millennium Dome planned for Greenwich. It contributed little to the millennium debate, but did settle what has been for years an undecided question at Westminster. Is "bum" a Parliamentary expression?

It was open to Madam Speaker yesterday to rule the term unparliamentary, and tell Mr Mitchell to withdraw it. She did not. MPs should note: henceforward and until the dissolution of Parliament, bums are in order. It was not

only Mr Mitchell's language which was exotic. To ask his question, he sported an enormous tie featuring colourful pictures of some of the stars of *Baywatch*, dominated by Pamela Anderson in a red swimsuit. Even in a marginal constituency like Grimsby, there should surely be limits to the lengths to which intending parliamentary candidates should go to catch the voter's eye.

Sporting bums, so to speak, and alluding to bums, Mitchell's real concern was to please the electors of Grimsby. MPs of all parties are the worst people to shape the forthcoming

millennium celebrations as their pronouncements are designed not to create a suitably eventful for the nation, but to curry favour with their constituents.

Thus, London MPs are mostly in favour of Greenwich as the site. MPs from the Midlands and the North thirsty for news which will do the project down. Mr Mitchell went on to describe Greenwich as a place nobody wanted to go

and couldn't find if they did. "Like Grimsby" shouted the Tories. Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, accused him (rather enviously, we thought) of "shameful amateur dramatics".

Next to pile into the assault on Greenwich was the West Midlands Tory, Sir Norman Fowler (Sutton Coldfield). A wounded Mrs Bottomley protested that millennium money had gone to Birmingham, too,

and she could not understand his bitterness.

But sketchwriters with long memories understand. We remember an indignant Sir Norman, last year, when a Tory colleague, Michael Jopling (Westmorland and Lonsdale), recommending Greenwich for the exhibition, told MPs that for most people in Britain Birmingham was just a place you went through on the way to London. Sir Norman nearly exploded. He will never now be reconciled to Greenwich.

Mr Mitchell will not be reconciled to Greenwich, either, but probably has doubts

about Birmingham. Sir Norman is as opposed to Grimsby as he is to Greenwich. Scottish MPs are sceptical of any English location, and English MPs scathing about Scotland. Nobody supports Wales, except the Welsh.

The London MP, Toby Jessel (C, Twickenham) supports Greenwich. Recently, Mr Jessel has been developing quite a line in starting arguments which nobody had thought of before, clinching the debate. Last week, he disposed of the Royal Yacht controversy after a back-of-the-envelope calculation that it would cost us all less than £1 million in a thousand years'.

There was a stunned silence. MPs had not thought of this. It was all so obvious! This was our last millennium until the next one! Opposition to the cost just fell away. Shocked, himself, by the knockdown simplicity of his argument, Mr Jessel sat down.

RUSSELL BOYCE/REUTERS



John Major with Alain Juppé, his French counterpart, during his one-day official visit to Britain yesterday

Labour denies policy switch on single currency

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR yesterday sought to play down any suggestion that it had softened its position on a single European currency after Robin Cook's admission that a Labour government might join in 2002.

Leadership sources denied that the Shadow Foreign Secretary had signalled any policy change, and insisted that he was not advocating that Labour should definitely join in 2002. The party still has its options open and the people would decide through a referendum, they insisted.

However, during the past few months Labour has appeared to shift its position to present a more Eurosceptic stance over monetary union after opinion polls reflected growing antipathy to the euro.

Last October senior party sources started speculating that a Labour government might not enter the first wave of a single currency. The next month the party announced that it would hold a referendum on a single currency.

The Tories, in danger of being outflanked, then agreed that it was "very unlikely" that a Conservative government would sign up to a first wave of European monetary union.

Yesterday Mr Cook also suggested that it was unlikely that a Labour government would sign up to a single currency in 1999. But he did suggest that Britain might enter EMU at a later date, if it had proved a success and was stable. "I think it would take a

wary of being left behind if other European countries go ahead with EMU in 1999.

The Eurosceptic Mr Cook was said to have been horrified that his comments were interpreted to mean that Labour would sign up to a single currency in five years' time. Party sources said that he had reiterated the line that he had given in interviews last November, which had widely been interpreted as Eurosceptic.

But the new rhetoric conceals a growing awareness that taking a too-Eurosceptic approach could jeopardise the business vote and deter wavering Liberal Democrats and pro-European Tory voters.

Tony Blair and his colleagues have been assiduous in courting big and small businesses during the past few weeks and Mr Cook will make a keynote speech on business and Europe on Wednesday.

The remarks by the head of Toyota last week that Britain could lose inward investment if it refused to join a single currency were supposedly a warning shot to the Tories.

But Labour is aware that it rules out a single currency either in the short or medium-term, as it risks losing the business vote. It has already attracted. "If on the other hand we keep the option open, and the Tories close it, we could bring them all over to our side," one source said.

Labour strategists point out that most businessmen are

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Whitehall mandarins face work in private sector

By VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

SENIOR mandarins in Whitehall will have to vote on a motion that the association "expresses its continued confidence in Sir George Gardiner as MP for Reigate and declares that the decisions reached at the special general meeting on January 30 are invalid".

Sir George was deselected last Thursday by 272 votes to 213 after his local members lost patience with his criticism of John Major. He is threatening to take legal action.

Senior party officials on Reigate Tories' executive council met last night to discuss the new demand and whether it would prevent them beginning the process of selecting a new candidate to replace Sir George.

Such exchanges have been tried before, but the number of staff moving in and out of government has remained at 400 in five years. Mr Heseltine asked business-

men for advice, and yesterday a report from a group chaired by Sir Bryan Nicholson, chairman of private health firm Bupa, recommended much tougher targets for the Government.

Sir Bryan believes government problems could more readily be solved with a fresh eye from outside. "The Lord Chancellor's department, for example, has never had a private sector successor. Yet we think it could benefit. The courts system has a terrible problem with listing that is not dissimilar from queuing."

He also thought the Department of Social Security might learn from companies in customer services.

Scotland's Tories deny breakaway

By ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR Scottish Tories yesterday dismissed reports that a breakaway party would be set up north of the border if Labour wins the general election and creates a devolved parliament.

It was claimed that the rebel strategy, being considered by some Tory activists in defiance of the party high command, would involve the party being renamed the Scottish Unionist Party to enable the development of a distinct and alternative Scottish agenda.

Tory candidates would stand under that banner in Scottish Parliament elections, according to yesterday's *Scotsman*. However, the newspaper was dismissed as preposterous by Sir Michael Hirst, the Scottish Tory par-

ty's chairman. Despite the denials, some Tory activists said that the party might have to review its operation if it lost heavily at the general election, and failed to win the devolution campaign.

The *Scotsman* said discussions were so advanced that financing of up to £3 million a year had been put forward.

George Robertson, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, said: "The sensible wing of the Scottish Tory party has now accepted that devolution is inevitable and that they must prepare for it."

While John Major will be fighting the coming election on a fiercely anti-devolution platform the Scottish Conservative Party has effectively thrown in the towel."

Faithful rally to save Sir George

By JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE bitter Tory divisions in Reigate reopened last night when supporters of Sir George Gardiner demanded a fresh meeting to reconstitute the ousted MP as their prospective parliamentary candidate.

Senior local officials gave a warning that the move could mean that the Tories will go into a general election without having picked a candidate for the Surrey seat.

More than 50 party members have signed a letter, delivered yesterday, calling for a meeting at which last week's decision to deselect Sir George could be overturned. The meeting has to be held if a certain number of members put their name to it.

Sir George's supporters

want the meeting to debate and vote on a motion that the association "expresses its continued confidence in Sir George Gardiner as MP for Reigate and declares that the decisions reached at the special general meeting on January 30 are invalid".

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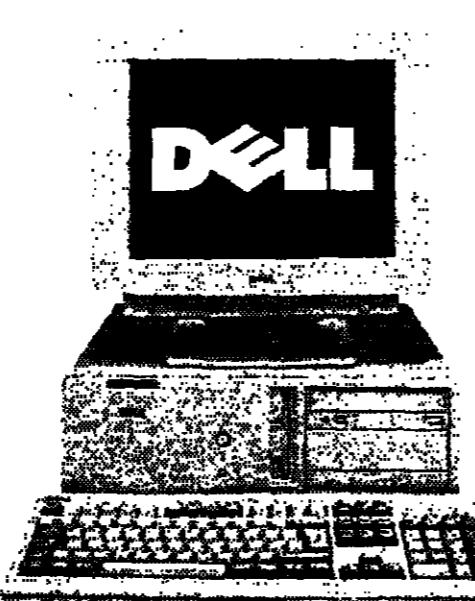
men for advice, and yesterday a report from a group chaired by Sir Bryan Nicholson, chairman of private health firm Bupa, recommended much tougher targets for the Government.

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Beryl Reid leaves actor her cats — complete with cottage

BY ADAM FRESCO
AND DAREN GREGORIAN

THE actress Beryl Reid has left her cottage on the banks of the Thames to an actor — with a request that he looks after her six cats.

Miss Reid, 76, also left Paul Strike, 48, most of the contents of the cottage and £20,000. Mr Strike, who has a non-speaking role in the BBC television hospital drama *Casualty*, is now dividing his time between Honeytop Cottage in Wraysbury, Berkshire, and his home at Clifton, Bristol. He said yesterday: "We were very good friends and I suppose I thought of her as a favourite aunt."

At one time Miss Reid had 13 cats. Some were named after friends and colleagues; one of those that has since died was called after the comedian Ronnie Corbett. The pets were often mentioned in her memoirs, a volume of which she called *The Cat's Whiskers*.

Mr Strike met Miss Reid about 20 years ago when he helped her with her lines for a play because she was dyslexic. He said: "She had discussed leaving me the cottage and



Female des res: the £200,000 thatched and turreted cottage by the Thames at Wraysbury, Berkshire

asked if I would also look after her cats. It was a request and had nothing to do with whether she left me the place or not. It is something I am more than happy to do. My cat died recently so I have brought one of them, Coco, to live with me.

The cats had their own personalities, he said. There was Eileen, who still liked to wash her son Hamish, even though he was old enough to look after himself; ginger Par-

is and his brother Tuftful, Bon, who was adventurous and liked climbing trees; and

Coco, who preferred to stay indoors.

The 1930s cottage consists of three semi-circular sections. "It is a totally unique cottage," Mr Strike said. "The sections, which are connected inside, are all individually thatched and look like turrets." An estate agent said that he would expect the cottage, which has two bedrooms, dining room, sitting room and kitchen, to fetch about £200,000.

The actress, who died last October after a career spanning 50 years, left an estate valued at £420,219. She is best remembered for her role in the play *The Killing of Sister George*, staged in London in 1965, moving to New York the following year — where she won a Tony award — and filmed in 1969. She was awarded an OBE in 1986.

Other films in which Miss Reid appeared included *The Belles of St Trinian's* and *Entertaining Mr Sloane*. She won a Bafta best actress award in 1983 for her role in the television spy drama *Smiley's People* and received a lifetime achievement award in the British Comedy Awards of 1991.



Miss Reid in 1961 with two of her earlier cats, Freddy and Footie. At one time she had 13, several named after colleagues. Six of the pets remain to be cared for

Eccentric bachelor leaves £2 million

BY ADRIAN LEE

AN ECCENTRIC who lived in a dilapidated cottage without central heating or television has left £2 million in his will.

Ron Hassard, a 6ft 7in bachelor, inherited his wealth from his father, invested it wisely but chose to live modestly. His only luxury was the occasional holiday abroad. One villager in Hook Norton, Oxfordshire, said: "We were amazed. He was a nice old boy but he lived like a hermit. The house was falling down around him."

Mr Hassard died last year, aged 76, in a house fire after falling asleep while smoking a cigarette. Two of his friends, Nigel Matthews, 28, a part-time fireman who tried to save Mr Hassard's life, and Anthony Beard, of Stipson on Stour, Warwickshire, shared £1 million. Mr Beard, 64, a retired bookmaker who was a friend for 40 years, said: "He was a very kind man. I just wish he had taken better care of himself."

Woman, 79, with heart disease is jailed

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A 76-YEAR-OLD grandmother suffering from heart disease and bronchitis was jailed for nine months yesterday for her part in handling stolen goods.

Judge Hutton told Ivy Williams, at Gloucester Crown Court: "There are places where the elderly and infirm can be looked after in prison." Mrs Williams' lawyers said they would be lodging an appeal against the sentence.

After a trial last year, Williams, of Bristol, had been convicted of eight charges of handling stolen jewellery and other valuables. Her two sons — one of whom has absconded — and their former girlfriends were all jailed for their parts in the offences at an earlier hearing, which Mrs Williams was too ill to attend.

Patrick Harrington, QC, for the defence, yesterday submitted that, at her age, Williams should be spared jail. He said her only previous criminal conviction had been, eight years ago, when she was fined £250 for handling stolen building society savings stamps, and that this time all she had done was "sweep up relative trifles which came her way to a value of no more than £200". He urged the court to fine her.

The judge said the previous sentence should have been a warning to her not to re-offend: "These offences are so serious that only a custodial sentence can be justified."

Monday misery is seen in a new light

BY NIGEL HAWKES

TEENAGERS who enjoy a weekend lie-in are likely to wake up in a foul mood on Monday morning. Far from being refreshed by staying in bed, their body clocks are thrown so far out of synchronisation with the actual time that Monday morning will seem more like the middle of the night.

Winter makes the problem worse because of a lack of morning sunlight, Dr Mike Jones, of Sussex University, says. The short and dark days of winter allow less contact with daylight, which plays a big part in keeping internal clocks in time. Working by a many window rather than in windowless cells can help, he says.

One theory about the condition is that it is a type of hibernation in response to the shortage of daylight: we eat more and do less. Dr Jones believes, however, that the problem arises from a progressive slippage between our internal clocks and the actual time.

"Human clocks tend to run slow, with a period slightly longer than 24 hours," he writes in the university's *Bulletin*. So, without suitable time cues to reset them, they get later and later each day.

"If they stay in bed on Saturday morning and then stay up late that night they get up even later on Sunday. By Monday morning they are really foul because their internal body clock is around three hours later. They feel they are being woken up in the middle of the night."

Bright light is the answer, Dr Jones says, and the best time to administer it is first thing in the morning. Throwing back the curtains may not be popular, but it is effective.

"This is because our clocks

need to be advanced by morning signals. Light is the most important of these, but general arousal, exercise, music, interpersonal relations, all can play a part."

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Secret courage of doctor who defied Colditz Nazis

By BILL FROST

A REMARKABLE story of wartime courage kept secret for half a century has been revealed with the death of a reluctant hero imprisoned in Colditz by the Nazis.

Birendra Nath Mazumdar never spoke of his exploits to friends or neighbours in the Devon village of Galpin where he retired. Only his immediate family knew that he had defied the Gestapo, without torture and outwitted the captors who threatened to shoot him if he refused to collaborate.

Dr Mazumdar's war might have remained secret forever if he had not agreed to tell Imperial War Museum researchers of his escape attempts from Colditz and his "home run". His only proviso was that the story should not be revealed until his death.

He told them too how he had been accused by fellow Allied officers of being a spy; how he had survived beatings, solitary confinement and the threat of execution.

Dr Mazumdar, who died aged 82 in December, came to Britain from his native India



Dr Mazumdar: kept silent about bravery

in 1937 to study medicine at Cambridge. When war broke out he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps and was posted to France.

Encircled by German tanks while leading a convoy of ambulances he had no alternative but to surrender, walking towards the Panzers with a white handkerchief tied to his baton. Over the next four years he was moved from camp to camp after complaining bitterly about the inadequacy of equipment and medicines with which to treat sick prisoners.

Captain Mazumdar's defiance infuriated his captors. He was beaten, placed in solitary confinement and finally sent to Colditz. There, the Gestapo tried to "persuade" him to join the Free India movement, led by Subhas Bose, who had persuaded many Indians to fight for independence by helping Hitler to topple the Raj.

His widow Joan recalled what her late husband had told her of his time as a PoW. "The Germans were desperate to get him to join the move-

ment and to broadcast propaganda to India. He was offered all sorts of inducements: money; women; a flat and wonderful life. He refused.

"It was at time that the rumours began among the other men. He was tipped off by a Dutch officer that some

other attempts were to follow — all punished with solitary confinement — before his home run to Switzerland, internment and eventual repatriation. "In all his four escape attempts he covered about 3,000 miles," said Mrs Mazumdar.

"He was a very strong man who lived by a code of duty, loyalty, morality and sincerity.



Captain Mazumdar, circled, with fellow prisoners in Colditz. He endured death threats and spy accusations

fellow prisoners thought he had been placed among them to spy.

"One officer in particular made the accusation. My husband was so furious he would have half killed him if he hadn't been dragged away."

Realising that escape from Colditz would be "difficult", Captain Mazumdar went on hunger strike. Fellow officers at Colditz said he stood no chance of escape because of the colour of his skin — he would have been a little obtrusive. So he had to find another way out of the castle," said his widow.

According to plan, he was moved to another camp where security was less daunting. He escaped, only to be recaptured tantalisingly close to the Spanish border.

His inner strength enabled him to endure solitary confinement, beatings and racial prejudice — sometimes from brother officers. But he was only with the greatest reluctance that he spoke of these experiences.

After the war he refused to attend PoW reunions and had only recently joined the Colditz Association.

"He had no time for Airey Neave who wrote a book about his escape," revealed his widow. "And although he thought Douglas Bader was

very brave, he didn't like him as a man."

It was the Colditz Association that alerted the Imperial War Museum to his extraordinary story. Mrs Mazumdar has also had an approach from Leeds University, which

wants her husband's memoirs for their war archives.

"I have them all, both in writing and on tape. I haven't played the recordings back yet," she said.

"I think it might make me weep. I miss him so."

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Earth at risk of collision with unseen comets

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of invisible comets may be hurtling into the solar system on a potential collision course with Earth, scientists said yesterday.

But spotting the comets — called "dead" comets because they are inactive and pitch black — is "like looking for a black cat in a coal cellar", according to one expert.

The findings will increase concern among some scientists that mankind is at risk from a devastating impact of the kind that caused the extinction of the dinosaurs. Asteroids had previously been thought to pose the greatest danger of extraterrestrial devastation: craters on the Earth's surface bear testimony to bombardments from space from objects about a kilometre across.

The new research indicates that the danger from dead comets, which, like Halley's Comet, are formed in a place called the Oort Cloud on the edge of the solar system, may be a big, if not bigger, than that posed by asteroids.

Only about 20 comets, such as Halley's, have previously been detected but new research indicates that between 1,000 and 4,000, up to six miles across, may be heading this way unseen. Many are likely to have orbits that bring them through the solar system every 200 years, which means that 50 a year could be passing by on paths that may take them near to Earth.

The research, to be released later this month at the Farnborough Memorial Meeting of the Geological Society in London and at a meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society in March, has been undertaken by Professor Mark Bailey of the Armagh Observatory and Professor Vacheslav Emel'yanenko, an astronomer from Chelyabinsk in the Russian Federation.

Professor Bailey said yesterday: "We are aware of around 20 comets like Halley's. For

every one we see, there may be at least 100 times as many in similar orbit that we do not see."

"This may be a conservative figure. Our calculations indicate that there may be between 1,000 and 5,000 that we have yet to see."

The findings are based on studies into the rate at which comets are entering the solar system from the Oort Cloud. Professor Bailey said they estimated that about one new comet arrived every year.

Most of these are ejected into interstellar space but the scientists estimate that about 1 per cent are "trapped" into short-period orbits that take them around the Sun every 200 years or so. The researchers believe they survive for half a million years, leaving up to 5,000 in orbit.

Professor Bailey said that comets such as Halley's were visible because they had volatile gases and streams of jets firing into a tail. Dead comets were inert.

It is also possible that dead comets, technically known as cometary asteroids, may disintegrate far faster than the team supposes. This would mean that many may now be little more than pencil-thin streams of meteoroids which would be hard to detect but which could cause no harm to the Earth.

Several astronomers have called on governments to set up networks of telescopes to give an early warning of approaching asteroids, large chunks of celestial debris formed in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

The belt is considered to be a graveyard of rubble from a planet that failed to form, with asteroids ejected from time to time. Several hundred have been detected.

Professor Bailey said that it may now be necessary to supplement such a system with infra-red telescopes covering the whole sky to seek out the dead comets.

THE BROADCASTING COMPLAINTS COMMISSION

Complaint from Messrs D & F Barclay and from Mr C Gardide — summary of adjudication

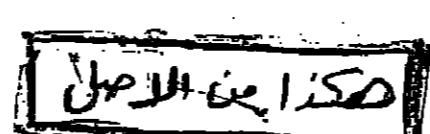
The Broadcasting Complaints Commission have upheld a complaint from Messrs D & F Barclay about an unauthorised infringement of their privacy in the making and subsequent broadcasting of an edition of *The Spin* transmitted by BBC2 on 4 October 1995. They have also partly upheld an associated complaint about the same programme, made by Mr C Gardide, Editor of *The European* newspaper, which is owned by the Barclays.

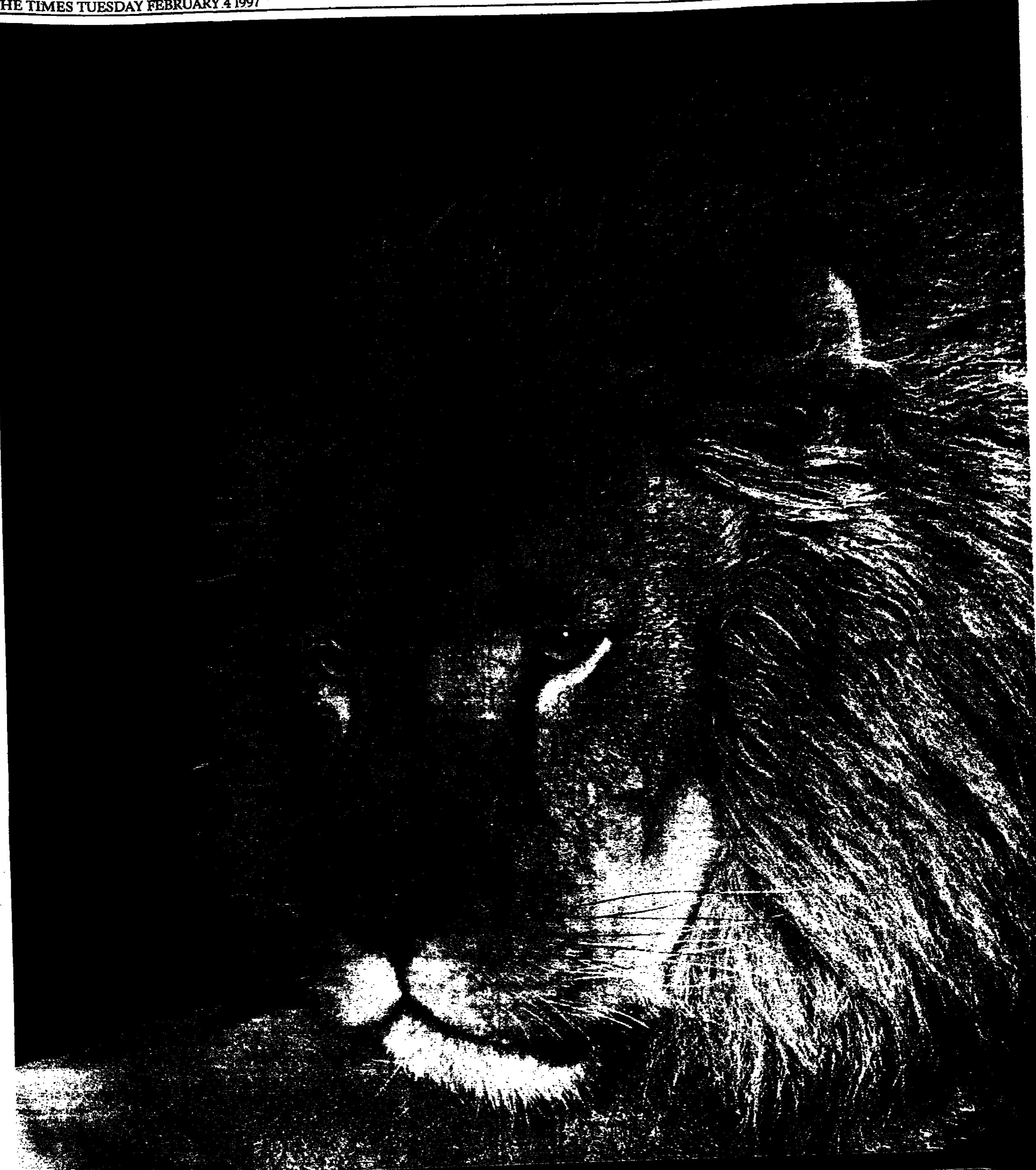
In making the programme the BBC's journalist John Sweeney landed on the Barclays' private island of Brechin after the BBC's producer had been told by Mr Gardide that the Barclays had declined to be interviewed and that they had refused permission for the programme-makers to visit the island. In noting the BBC's submissions seeking to justify their landing on the island as in the public interest, the Commission were not persuaded that their case rested on more than a wish to provide an entertaining programme for a curious public. In the Commission's view there were no allegations made against the Barclays about which the BBC could realistically have expected to find out more by a visit to Brechin.

The Commission found in relation to Mr Gardide, that he could reasonably have been expected to be questioned about the Barclays in an interview about *The European*, particularly as this took place after the BBC's landing on Brechin. However, they considered that the way in which extracts from his interview were edited might well have left an unfair impression of evasiveness. They also found, in fairness, his assurance that the Barclays did not interfere with his editorship of *The European* should have been included.

You can get a copy of the full adjudication by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Broadcasting Complaints Commission, 7 The Sanctuary, London SW1P 3LS.

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in which the circumstances and the context
of the statement are important. The purpose is serving and
the context is the following: The high-speeding
of the car is the cause of the accident. The
accident is the result of the high-speeding.

هذا من الامثل

Stone Age teenagers cut their teeth on smoky chewing gum

By NORMAN HAMMOND AND NIGEL HAWKES

STONE Age teenagers developed a 5,000-year-long taste for a smoky-flavoured chewing gum made from birch bark, research has shown.

Youngsters chewed a black tar which doubled as a glue and may have helped remove loose milk teeth.

Elizabeth Aveling, a doctoral student at Bradford, who reconstituted the early gum from its original ingredients, says that the taste is neither pleasant nor entirely unpleasant. "It's a strange, smoky flavour. The texture is very like modern chewing gum, but it isn't sweet. Who knows what appealed to the Mesolithic palate?"

Samples of the ancient gum have been found in Sweden, Germany, Denmark and Norway. Some have the impression of teeth, which show that the majority of users were aged between six and 15. But one 30-something left the mark of a tooth with a cavity in it, suggesting that perhaps the gum had pain-killing properties and was being used to stave off toothache.

"Tar-like materials were commonly chewed throughout northern Europe from at least the Early Mesolithic period," Ms Aveling writes in *British Archaeology*. "Birch bark tar contains compounds that could serve as disinfectants, and these might be slowly

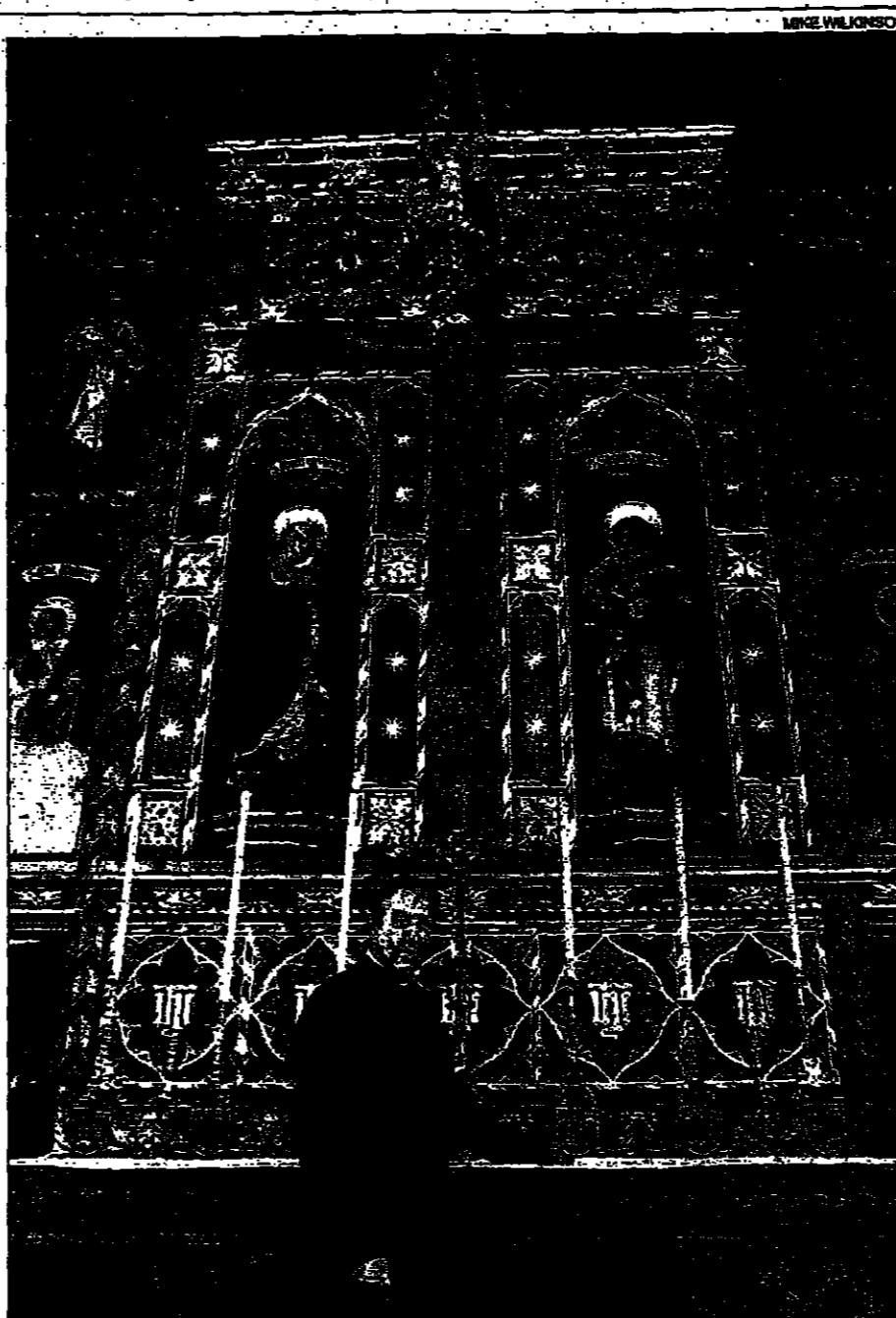
able, and which was certainly chewed by later peoples. "It looks as if the birch bark had some importance, perhaps some ritual significance."

Her research has taken her to Scandinavia to collect specimens of the gum, which she analysed using a gas chromatograph mass spectrometer. This shows clearly that the ancient material contains the same chemical species as modern tar made from birch bark. The tar was chewed plain and specimens from widely different sites and periods were found to be remarkably similar in composition.

Many plant products, such as tobacco or betel nuts, are chewed to release addictive stimulants, but no such materials have been shown to be present in the birch bark tar. The fact that children often chewed it at the age when they would have been losing their milk teeth suggests that may have been trying to remove loose teeth.

Chewing gum is often thought of as a 19th-century American invention. The Scandinavian finds show that chewing has been going on since at least 7000 BC, and that birch bark gum was chewed from then until around 2000 BC.

However, when the Stone Age children had enough, they spat it out. Nothing changes.



The Rev Paul Harvie and the screen he restored after teaching himself gilding

THE TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4 1997

Rector's DIY skill at gilding shines out

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

AN ANGLICAN clergyman, whose previous DIY prowess seemed only to wallpapering, has taught himself gilding to restore the faded 19th-century reredos in his church.

The Rev Paul Harvie, 60, has spent 150 hours applying gold leaf to the 50ft-high panel behind the altar in St Salvador's Episcopal Church in Sandend. He learnt how to from a library book.

"I did a little bit in an antique shop once and it didn't look too bad," he said. He then gilded a screen before attempting the intricate Victorian stonework on the reredos. "Once I started that there really was no going back."

The reredos, in Pre-Raphaelite style, depicts the 12 apostles and four archangels and was originally painted in 1874.

Mr Harvie's work has allowed the church, where he is rector, to apply for Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Scotland grants totalling £125,000. He worked for free but the architect overseeing the restoration has costed his time. The church can include his labour in the partnership funding the grants require.

"Mr Harvie decided to tackle the apostles, which were professionally restored. "I'm the sort of person who likes to have a go," he said.

Caribbean sun shines in Bucks

The English town with the highest concentration of Saint Vincentians anywhere outside the eastern Caribbean island is to be twinned with it.

The first few West Indians from the island arrived in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, in the 1950s, and found jobs in furniture factories. Today, there are 5,000 St Vincentians living in High Wycombe, which has a population of 170,000, compared with the island, where 17,000 people live. High Wycombe's mayor, Jamaican-born Sebert Graham, agreed the twinning with the East Caribbean High Commission.

Street star ill

The actor Bryan Mosley, who plays Alf Roberts in *Coronation Street*, underwent tests in hospital after suffering his second heart attack in four years. Mr Mosley, 65, was taken ill on Friday and admitted to Bradford Royal Infirmary. His condition was described as satisfactory.

Accused held

A man extradited from France accused of murdering his former girlfriend has been remanded in custody for a month by Portsmouth magistrates. Victor Farrant, 47, is accused of killing Glenda Hosking, 45, last February and of the attempted murder of Anna Miller, 43.

Baby inquiry

Two nurses who were on duty when a baby died in hospital have been suspended. An internal investigation has begun at Buryton General Hospital, Lancashire, into the girl's death in the neonatal intensive care unit two weeks ago. A coroner's inquest will be held.

Flying squad

Officers recovered 43 stolen birds with their owners after an identity parade at Barry police station in South Wales. Canaries, budgies and parakeets had been taken into protective custody by police who raided a local address after thefts in the area. A 14-year-old boy was released on bail.

Glider crashes

A glider pilot escaped uninjured after his £20,000 aircraft clipped trees, somersaulted and crashed onto a car park as he tried to land at Lasham Airfield near Alton, Hampshire. The middle-aged local man was treated for shock. The Civil Aviation Authority is holding an inquiry.

Head-butt case

A former boxer has been committed to Crown Court to be sentenced for head-butching an MP. Keiron Quinn, 30, of Wigan, Greater Manchester, had admitted assaulting Ian McCartney, a Labour employment spokesman, after a row over his campaign to register doormen.

Shower death

A teenager died when he was electrocuted by an incorrectly wired shower. Adrian Toppling, 19, was found dead in the bath at home in Coppull, Lancashire, by his sister Cheryl, 23. The shower is thought to have been installed several years ago. Their parents were on holiday.

Swan's record

A ringed female Bewick's swan has returned from its summer breeding grounds in Siberia to the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust reserve at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, for a record 26th successive year. The swan has had two mates and thirty-two cygnets since 1971.

Rationing care must not mean rationing food

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE Association of Community Health Councils, which looks after the interests of patients, has issued a report suggesting that not only are people in hospital fed unappetising food but that in the wards of some hospitals, they are so malnourished that the weak and feeble are starved. The association's interest has been kindled by more than 200 complaints by the families of patients.

From my own experience, I know that starvation can be a contributory cause to the death of the very old, and a year or two ago I, too, might have written to complain. An octogenarian relative was admitted to a ward with a chest infection after flu. She was too debilitated to feed herself but her meals, quite unsuitable for someone so enfeebled, were put on her bedside table. Half an hour later the food was gathered up again, quite untouched, with the jolly quip: "No appetite yet, I see, Lottie." Lottie gave a

quick, surreptitious ward round showed that my relative was not alone in her plight: similar scenes were being repeated all over the ward, but malnourished, virtually starved, Lottie went steadily downhill. Complaints and entreaties were received politely and with such remarks as, "Well, she is well into her eighties", but any rudeness had to be modulated by the thought that one didn't want to castigate those who were already hard-pressed. Lottie

had a quick, surreptitious ward round showed that my relative was not alone in her plight: similar scenes were being repeated all over the ward, but malnourished, virtually starved, Lottie went steadily downhill. Complaints and entreaties were received politely and with such remarks as, "Well, she is well into her eighties", but any rudeness had to be modulated by the thought that one didn't want to castigate those who were already hard-pressed. Lottie

Vicars learn serpent's craft

By DAREK GREGORIAN

SIXTY vicars have signed up for a martial arts class after three attacks on clergy — one a murder — on the same night.

The group from the Peterborough diocese is expected to attend the course this afternoon at Northamptonshire Police Headquarters. It was organised after the murder of the Rev Christopher Gray in Liverpool and other attacks last August 13.

Paul Needle, a spokesman for the diocese, said: "We're not teaching them to go on the rampage. The same Jesus who taught us to turn the other cheek also taught us to be crafty as a serpent. You have to understand the world you live in to work in the world you live in." The three-hour class will include risk assessment and assertiveness.

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Detective changes station in life as he retires to Lords

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE clothes are more ceremonial than plain, but detective Rodney Muff believes he will have no trouble fitting in at the House of Lords after giving up his job to take his seat.

The 50-year-old constable, who retired from the West Yorkshire force earlier this year, is in Parliament as Baron Calverley of Bradford. The third Lord Calverley inherited his title when his father died in 1971, but was determined to continue his career as a police officer.

He remained plain Rodney Muff to his colleagues in Bradford until retiring after 33 years with the force. He said yesterday: "I shall take the same approach as I had when I was a policeman: to do the job to the best of my ability.

"I'd just like to use some common sense and my background as a policeman. I feel that being a police officer at the sharp end for that length of time, I have got my feet on the ground. I know what the average man feels.

"Most of my colleagues knew, though it wasn't something I shouted about, I'd like to think that they always took me for what I am, not an



Arms of the law: Rodney Muff in uniform as a young officer in 1963, the year he joined the police force, and the family shield which is part of his new life



hereditary peer, but a police officer and a member of the team. It was mickey-taking, but it was always good-natured."

He has taken the Liberal Democrat whip even though the title was created in 1945 for his grandfather, George Muff, the Labour MP for Hull East, to boost the party's ranks in the upper house.

He thinks his grandfather would have approved of his choice of party. "He was a

Liberal to start with. It was only when the Labour Party was founded that his humble background swayed him. In those days there was a need for socialism. People were hungry, with nothing on their feet. I have a social conscience but I am not a socialist."

He sees New Labour as a different party to his grandfather's. "Tony Blair wants to get rid of hereditary peers, he wants to get rid of a lot of things which are the fabric of

the land. He seems to want to get rid of everything that has stood the test of time.

"I haven't any set policies to take with me. I have never been especially political and this will be completely new to me. I will be on a learning curve, but I intend to play my part to the full. It will be a full-time thing for me. It is a serious business, it is not a job, it is your duty. On the writ of summons it states it is your duty to attend and it is the

highest court in the land." He will attend sittings five days a week, living in a flat in London and returning to Bradford at weekends. He took his seat last month, but has yet to speak in a debate.

He said: "My wife is supporting me and there is an element of pride. I am just a humble policeman and I hope I can bring some sound common sense to the proceedings. My family has never had silver spoons in our mouths."

The title descended in 1955 to his father, George, a former Army captain, but his job as an insurance official prevented him taking his seat. Lord Calverley said: "He would have liked to have taken early retirement and done his bit in the Lords but unfortunately he didn't live long enough. I now find myself in a position to attend the House.

"I am doing this so much for my father. He would have loved to have done it. He was more of a political animal because he knew my grandfather much better."

"My grandfather died when I was a kid, so I only have vague recollections of him, though I remember the hoo-ha of him going down to Parliament. It was all very grand."



Lord Calverley believes his years as a policeman will help him in his new role

Lord Calverley, who lives in a modest pebbledash house with his wife Barbara, 50, a nurse, and their sons Jonathan, 21, a graphic artist, and Andrew, 18, a sociology and social sciences student, joined the police as a cadet in 1963. He began on foot patrol in Bradford before becoming a detective in the Special Branch and aliens department. He

ended his career in the Major Crime Unit, winning two commendations. "The job has changed a great deal, for the worse," he said. "Police don't have the respect they used to."

Tories risk all in the lion's mouth

Tory strategists believe that Europe could be a big vote-winner, to judge by their bizarre new poster featuring a weeping lion. They are right that voters care more about Europe. But they are confusing separate and conflicting ways in which Europe affects public opinion — firstly, as an issue on its own merits and, secondly, in shaping party images.

A year ago, Europe regularly came sixth or seventh in the public's list of the most important issues facing Britain, mentioned by between 10 and 15 per cent in the regular MORI poll for *The Times*. The number of mentions varied, depending on whether a Euro-row had been in the headlines.

However, the number of mentions crept up last year to more than 20 per cent and fourth or fifth in importance. In early December, mentions of Europe jumped to 38 per cent, second equal with education, behind the health service. The latest MORI poll showed a drop to 29 per cent, fourth in importance.

However, as significant are large variations within the electorate. Nearly half of Tory loyalists — those who have stuck by the party since 1992 — regard Europe as among the most important issues facing Britain today, well ahead of schools or crime. By contrast, just a fifth of Labour loyalists mention Europe.

Three in ten switchers — those who have deserted from the Tories or swung behind Labour since 1992 — rate Europe as among the most important issues. Even more striking is that a third of Tory loyalists view Europe as the single most important issue facing Britain, compared with a tenth of Labour loyalists.

Underlining the potential for the Tories, a fifth of those who have deserted the party since 1992 regard Europe as the single most important issue. The Tories have lost ground against Labour since 1992 as the party with the best policies on Europe, but have recovered a little in the past two years. These figures suggest that a strong line on Europe may be a good way

PETER RIDDELL

Mills hires expert to improve CPS image

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Director of Public Prosecutions has hired a communications chief to rescue the image of the embattled Crown Prosecution Service. Dame Barbara Mills, QC, has appointed Lyn Salisbury, now a chief press officer at the Department of Trade and Industry, to the new post after a poll by MORI for a civil service union found low morale and poor communications within the service. Her task is to promote the CPS inside and outside the service. Ms Salisbury, 49, has a good track record of handling sensitive issues in the news.



How long can Government policy go on restricting our growth?

The Government claims that it believes in free trade and open competition. So far as international air travel is concerned, the reality is very different.

Manchester Airport's ability to grow routes outside the European Union is being stunted by red tape in the form of archaic regulations dating back to 1947, which were introduced essentially for military reasons, and before the introduction of passenger jets. These regulations — called bilateral agreements — require that before an airline can start a new service between 2 countries an international treaty between the respective Governments is required.

In today's highly competitive market place these rules are

an utter irrelevance to Manchester and other regional airports. Other Governments recognise this and pursue an Open Skies policy to the benefit of their airports and countries.

Major competitor airports like Singapore and Amsterdam therefore attract additional routes without getting snarled up in inter-governmental politics. By contrast, Manchester is constrained by a regulatory process which impedes and deters international airlines from starting new services.

The impact on the regional economy and on employment is enormous. An independent firm of analysts, York Consulting, has estimated that the introduction of an Open Skies policy

would create in the order of 10,000 jobs in the North West between now and 2005.

As IATA passenger survey has found Manchester to be the 'World's Best Airport'. Many airlines want to start up routes to and from Manchester, allowing more passengers to fly directly to their chosen destinations, and creating jobs here rather than exporting them. The Government can unilaterally declare 'Open Skies' over Manchester and other regional airports and support the creation of jobs and passenger choice.

There is no good reason why the Government should not act now. It must!

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Nato expansion would be 'biggest error in 50 years'

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY IN DAVOS AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Kremlin yesterday described the planned enlargement of Nato to include Poland and other countries in Eastern Europe as the "biggest mistake by Western leaders for 50 years".

The Yeltsin administration declared that Nato enlargement would draw a "new line across the whole of Europe" and would "lead inevitably to a rethinking of all Russian external policy". This would include not only military relations with Nato, but also political co-operation with Western Europe and economic relations with the International Monetary Fund, the Paris Club and the World Bank.

The only circumstances that could make Nato enlargement tolerable for Russia would be the West's agreement to a legally-binding treaty of friendship between Russia and Nato. This treaty would have to give Russia a cast-iron and perpetual guarantee.

Russia unveils plan to lead arms sales

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA has unveiled an aggressive strategy to beef up its arms sales abroad, vowing to lead the world in weapons exports by next year.

In a move likely to cause concern in the West, where Moscow's sale of military hardware to repressive regimes is regarded as destabilising, Russia's state arms manufacturer has announced a new marketing drive in developing countries.

Mikhail Tinkin, the deputy director general of Rosvoruzhniyu, the state arms agency, said: "If we are not hindered and if we are supported by the Government, politically, we hope to catch up with the United States in terms of arms exports or even outstrip it in 1998."

Russian arms exports were worth \$3.5 billion (£2.2 billion)

against any deployment of nuclear weapons and other military hardware on the territory of former Warsaw Pact countries – and it would have to be ready for signature before the Nato summit, to be held in Madrid in July.

The major hardening of the Russian stance was announced yesterday by Anatoli Chubais, the Kremlin Chief of Staff, who is generally believed to hold plenipotentiary powers during the President's illness.

Speaking at a press conference at the World Economic Forum at Davos, he said he was speaking out because of the lack of understanding of Russia's concerns among Western public opinion and leaders. Mr Chubais emphasised that, in making his statement, he was speaking with the authority of President Yeltsin and the Russian Government, as well as expressing the "universal" opposition to Nato enlargement across the political spectrum in Russia.

Mr Chubais said Nato enlargement was "unacceptable to Russia under any conditions", but he recognised that the alliance was likely to take that step. Therefore the Russian leadership was offering compromise proposals.

Meanwhile, Ukraine was promised a special security relationship with Nato yesterday. The proposal was outlined by Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, in a visit to Ukraine. Nato sources said Mr Portillo was speaking in line with alliance policy of offering Kiev a similar partnership to the one now being negotiated with Russia.

The plan is to forge a formal security agreement with Ukraine which can be signed by President Clinton and Leonid Kuchma, the President of Ukraine, at the Madrid Nato summit. At the same time, a special security charter would be signed with Russia.

■ **Italian "time-bomb":** Senior German bankers and businessmen at the Davos meeting expressed growing scepticism about Italy's ability to join economic and monetary union in 1999.

Ulrich Cartillieri, a board member of Deutsche Bank and an outspoken proponent of an early monetary union, surprised many other bankers and shocked the Italian contingent when he asked: "How will France and Germany explain to Italy that it should stay out? In the view of many, if Italy is admitted to the single currency zone, it could be a time-bomb within the union. If these issues drag on much longer, the whole scenario of EMU in 1999 could implode."

Deutsche Bank is believed to follow policies very close to those of the German Government. Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, appeared to endorse the comments when he said there could be no softening of entry requirements for any country and that the "convergence criteria" would take absolute priority over any artificial deadlines or dates".

Russia has also upset the international community by selling three Kilo class submarines to Iran, warplanes to India and Malaysia, advanced weapons including jet fighters to China, and ten MiG-21 military transport helicopters to Colombia.



The El Greco masterpiece, just 17in by 11in, sold at Christie's in Manhattan

£2m record paid for El Greco

New York: A record auction price for an El Greco was achieved in New York when the Spanish artist's *Christ on the Cross* sold for £239,150 (Quentin Letts writes).

The bid, at Christie's in Manhattan, was made anonymously after brisk interest from a packed auction room. A Juan de Zurbarán painting, *Apples in a wicker basket with pomegranates*, also attracted a world record price of £177,950.

The El Greco masterpiece

— *Christ on the Cross* — dates from the Cretan-born artist's residence in Rome towards the end of the 16th century. It was held to be an important moment in his artistic development.

The history of the painting is something of a mystery: there is little record of its existence before 1989, when it was acquired by the owner who has just sold it. The picture shows Christ after breathing his last on the Cross, the heavens above

depicted with the raw intensity which was later to become El Greco's trademark.

After Rome, El Greco moved to Spain. His crucifixion paintings from that era tend to show Christ alive, with a development of the surrounding canvas.

Anthony Crichton-Stuart, head of Christie's Old Master department, described the auction, which raised more than £13 million, as one of the most successful mixed sales in recent years.

It is difficult to see how the Germans can come out well from the Cindy affair. If it turns out that she was German-born, the country's export market will suffer permanent damage. If she is found to be English or Scottish-born, the flawed German control system is likely to cause lasting harm to consumer confidence.

New security measures will include chips implanted under the hide of every animal. Germany is also pressing hard for a European passport for cows — although Forsyth fans know all too well that passports are far from infallible.

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Cindy and Rita cover their tracks in udder secrecy

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

BRITISH cows, shunned by Europe because of BSE, are coming out of the cold as farmers deploy tactics normally associated with deep-cover espionage agents.

German agriculture officials

admitted that at least one German Galloway cow had thrown investigators into confusion by switching identities in a technique borrowed from Frederick Forsyth's *The Day of the Jackal*.

"We still do not know the true identity of Cindy," conceded Franz Josef Feier, the Junior Agriculture Minister.

"We are hoping to gain some

clues from our contacts in the British Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries."

Cindy sent the already de-

pressed German beef market

into a spin when the Galloway — apparently German-born — was found to have "mad cow" disease. Domestic beef demand dropped dramatically and several countries stopped all imports of German livestock and beef products — this from a country that has reported only five cases of BSE since 1992 and which has been particularly stringent in its controls.

Cindy slipped through the

net. Or was she really called

Rita? The transformation of Rita into Cindy follows

sequence by sequence the method

used by Forsyth's fictional assassin. He sought out the

name of a dead child with

approximately the same birth

date as himself. A birth certifi-

cate was acquired and the

agent applied for a passport in

the child's name; similar tech-

niques are still used in the

espionage world.

The most plausible explana-

tion for Germany's latest mad

cow is as follows: British

Galloway cow called

Camelia gave birth in July

1992 to a still-born male calf.

Three years later the identity

papers were adjusted to record

the dead calf as a living female

called Cindy. She was given

an appropriate name. Under

German rules, there was nothing

to stop the sale of Cindy,

Camelia's daughter. The cow

passed from an East German

farm to North Rhine-West-

phalia, where she died of BSE

last December. However, in-

vestigators believe that Cindy

may never have existed: she

1 The Lord of the Rings J.R.R. Tolkien

2 Nineteen Eighty-Four George Orwell

3 Animal Farm George Orwell

4 Ulysses James Joyce

5 Catch-22 Joseph Heller

6 The Catcher in the Rye J.D. Salinger

7 To Kill a Mockingbird Harper Lee

8 One Hundred Years of Solitude Gabriel García Márquez

9 The Grapes of Wrath John Steinbeck

10 Trainspotting Irvine Welsh

11 Wild Swans Jung Chang

12 The Great Gatsby F. Scott Fitzgerald

13 Lord of the Flies William Golding

14 On the Road Jack Kerouac

15 Brave New World Aldous Huxley

16 The Wind in the Willows Kenneth Grahame

17 Winnie-The-Pooh A.A. Milne

18 The Color Purple Alice Walker

19 The Hobbit J.R.R. Tolkien

20 The Outsider Albert Camus

21 The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe C.S. Lewis

22 The Trial Franz Kafka

23 Gone with the Wind Margaret Mitchell

24 The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy Douglas Adams

25 Midnight's Children Salman Rushdie

26 The Diary of Anne Frank Anne Frank

27 A Clockwork Orange Anthony Burgess

28 Sons and Lovers D.H. Lawrence

29 To the Lighthouse Virginia Woolf

30 If This is a Man Primo Levi

31 Lolita Vladimir Nabokov

32 The Wasp Factory Iain Banks

33 Remembrance of Things Past Marcel Proust

34 Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Roald Dahl

35 Of Mice and Men John Steinbeck

36 Beloved Toni Morrison

37 Possession A.S. Byatt

38 Heart of Darkness Joseph Conrad

39 A Passage to India E.M. Forster

W

If you haven't read all the 100 greatest books of the century (as voted by Waterstone's customers and Channel 4 viewers), you've still got something to look forward to. If you haven't read most of them, you've got some catching up to do. If you're hardly ready any of them, welcome to the twentieth century.

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Clinton hopes to appease foes with tax-cutting budget

FROM BRONWEN MADDOW IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton will make \$98 billion (£61.25 billion) of tax cuts the centrepiece of his budget, which will be unveiled before Congress on Thursday, in an attempt to appease Republican opponents and get his second term off to a productive start.

Despite the tax cuts, his budget also lays out a plan for wiping out the federal deficit — the gap between the government's annual income and spending — by 2002.

The balanced-budget goal, a totem of many Republicans but anathema to liberal Democrats, is in sharp contrast to

the kaleidoscope of high-spending aims of his first term and shows how far Mr Clinton has dragged his economic policies in the Republicans' direction since then.

A financially prudent Government will be one of the main themes of his State of the Union speech tonight. He will also focus on the looming task of moving people off welfare and into jobs and, most controversially, reforming the rules on election funding after the most expensive campaign in US history.

However, it is the budget more than the speech that will

set the tone for his second term; it forces him to put numbers as well as words to his campaign pledges. The budget's conservative tone, disclosed in interviews yesterday and on Sunday with senior administration officials, reduces the risk that it will be savaged by Congress, thereby undermining Mr Clinton's ability to achieve much in his second term.

The proposed \$98 billion of tax relief, to be spread over five years, will consist largely of credits allowing families or students to set the cost of education against tax. Mr Clinton has made the extension of higher education the most prominent social policy of his second term.

Tax relief will also be directed towards the costs of home ownership, and the budget will lift capital gains tax on selling a home. Like the educational tax credits, these proposals are directed mainly at middle-income families.

Mr Clinton proposes to pay for \$80 billion of the tax cuts by clawing back rates of business subsidies and tax loopholes that have built up over decades, such as exemptions from tax for interest and dividends.

Republicans in the Senate and House of Representatives, who have called for larger and less specific tax cuts, of up to \$160 billion, have given grudging approval to the tone of the budget but will find plenty to attack. In particular, they have called for more tax cuts to be directed at higher income brackets.

They also criticise Mr Clinton's plans for Medicare, the ever-expanding healthcare programme for the elderly, for failing to ask well-off pensioners to contribute more.

Mr Clinton will also face a fierce separate battle with Congress during the next few weeks over a move to rewrite the US Constitution to force the Government to balance the budget each year.

The President argues that it will shackle the Government's ability to help people during recession or to help the economy to recover.

Dole pushes wife to White House

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE, the former Republican presidential candidate, hopes that he might still enter the White House in four years time — as the first First Gentleman in American history.

The retired senator is now promoting the candidature of his wife, Elizabeth, president of the American Red Cross and a Cabinet secretary in successive former Republican administrations. "Got a woman Secretary of State," said Mr Dole, referring to the

recent appointment of Madeleine Albright. "It's only one more step now. It's going to happen... I encourage her to look at it."

Such sentiments were voiced by some leading Republicans even when Mr Dole was running for the White House last year. Many felt that the charismatic Mrs Dole — known as "Liddy" — would have given President Clinton a much tougher race.

Despite her charming Southern demeanour, Mrs Dole, 60, is fiercely ambitious. She has harboured a strong desire for the presidency since her student days at Duke, Harvard and Oxford.

The advice from her husband shows that he is serious about his wife's prospects. "When the 1998 election comes, then take a look," Mr Dole, 73, has yet to find a suitable outlet for his own semi-retirement, apart from numerous appearances on chat shows, as cameos in television comedies or various advertisements. He is now considering writing a regular newspaper column entitled "If I Were President" and has been approached as a television commentator.



"Liddy" Dole nurses hope of being President



Banker leaps at \$1m goal

Lance Alstott, a 26-year-old New York banker, jumps for joy after winning \$1 million (£620,000) with a single kick at an American football match in Hawaii (Quentin Letts writes).

Mr Alstott strode out in front of a 50,000 crowd at the Pro Bowl game on Sunday to attempt the 35-yard place kick for goal. The \$1 million chance is offered

looks from the sponsors — the ball sailed over.

The banker whooped, jumped and then fell over. "I took advantage of my soccer style," he said. "As I approached the ball I blocked everyone out. I hit it good and kept my head down. When I saw it go through I was shocked." Then he added: "Show me the money."

The judge's recollections coincided with the start of a debate yesterday in the 370,000-member American Bar Association over the possible adoption of a call for a moratorium on capital punishment across America.

Somali pirates demand ransom

Modogadishu: Somali gunmen seized a Kenyan cargo ship off the southern port of Kismayo and are demanding \$15,000 (£9,000) for its release, port officials said yesterday.

They said that eight militiamen using speedboats seized the Clove, which was carrying consumer goods from Mombasa, Kenya, before it could enter the port to unload.

The disclosures of California-based Judge Alex Kozinski, which were immediately attacked yesterday by a legal ethics organisation, were highly unusual but gave an insight into the strains judges endure during death penalty appeals.

Judge Kozinski, a member of the Ninth Circuit of the US Court of Appeals, wrote a personal article for the *New Yorker* magazine, detailing hour by hour his fitful sleep on the night Thomas Beal was sent to the execution chamber in 1990. Judge Kozinski recalled that he "awoke with a start, sat upright in the darkness" and that his role in Beal's death by lethal injection "took hold of my mind and would not let go". He said he suffered a "nagging sense of unease, something like motion sickness".

Although he restated his belief that it was right to put Beal to death, the judge noted that he found himself hoping that a last-minute stay would be granted.

It is the custom for judges not to discuss personal cases and Judge Kozinski was criticised sharply yesterday by Americans for the Enforcement of Attorney Ethics. Leo Stoller, its director and an opponent of capital punishment, said: "Judge Kozinski is well regarded but it is shocking, very disturbing, that he has discussed this case. When you rule on someone's life your feelings have to be clear-cut." Mr Stoller predicted that the judge's remarks would be seized on by defence lawyers who come before him in future capital punishment inmates.

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Taipei: A breeder agreed to remove 30,000 scorpions from his backyard after complaints from neighbours. He said that they were used in gourmet dishes and also in Chinese medicine. (AFP)

Killers let off

Beijing: Two mentally handicapped men who started a fire that killed 36 people in Shanghai will not stand trial. Psychiatrists said the men were incapable of taking responsibility. *China Daily* said. (AP)

Stings removed

Taipei: A breeder agreed to remove 30,000 scorpions from his backyard after complaints from neighbours. He said that they were used in gourmet dishes and also in Chinese medicine. (AFP)

Zaire claims allied troops coming to rescue

ZAIREAN officials yesterday claimed to have chartered aircraft to fly troops from Togo, Morocco and Chad to help put down a rebel offensive which yesterday threatened to take Shaba province and add a third rich area to the guerrillas' territorial gains (Sam Kiley, Africa Correspondent, writes).

According to a senior official in Kinshasa, Zaire's capital, the three countries were to send troops which would be

backed up with training by Israel and China. Egypt was to supply Zaire with infantry equipment.

The military official said: "The planes for the operation have already been chartered." However, he did not say when soldiers would arrive in Zaire.

President Mobutu arrived in Morocco yesterday for talks with King Hassan.

Yesterday both east Zaire's rebels and the Government said there had been

heavy fighting around the town of Kalemie in northern Shaba (formerly Katanga). The rebels said from their base in Goma, which they took last November, that the town had already fallen along with most of Watsa, where white mercenaries were trying to defend the airport.

The military official in Kinshasa insisted that Zaire was about to launch a recruiting campaign to arm and equip 13 commando brigades of 2,000 men each.

Israelis open road to Hebron

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

PEACE hopes in the Middle East received a new boost yesterday when Israeli troops partly reopened an arterial road in the disputed West Bank city of Hebron for limited Palestinian traffic for the first time in three years.

Last month's US-brokered peace deal paved the way for Palestinian ambulances, taxis and municipal vehicles to travel along a section of the road, known to Arabs as "Martyrs' Street" and to Jews as "King David's Street", with further sections to be opened over the next four months.

"The opening of the street means that the two sides are committed to implementing the agreement and the return of normality to the city," Mustapha Natche, the Palestinian Mayor, said. Tomorrow Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, will fly to Jordan to meet King Hussein and on Thursday he will meet Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, to map out the next steps in the revised peace process.

Angry leaders of the 450 militant settlers in Hebron attacked the Government for opening the road, a move which they fear will make them vulnerable to car and lorry bomb attacks. "It is a new reality," Noam Arnon, their spokesman, said. "It will be flooded with Arab cars which will pose a real danger to the Jews here."

□ Gaza: A Palestinian held by Palestine Liberation Organisation security forces in the West Bank city of Nablus was tortured to death during interrogation, the Palestinian Justice Minister said. (Reuters)

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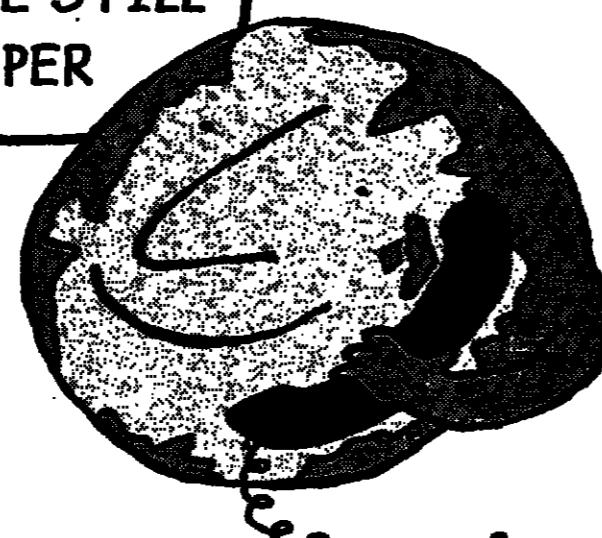
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THE TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4 1997

OVERSEAS NEWS 15

Ousted Pakistani leader denies plan to leave country as voters show their apathy

Bhutto vows she will not recognise defeat in 'rigged' poll

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN LARKANA

A VISIBLELY tense Benazir Bhutto, sensing an inevitable defeat for her party yesterday, said that she would not accept an unfavourable election result and delivered a warning of impending political turmoil in the country.

"I will not concede to the outcome of a doctored election," she said as her Pakistan People's Party faced the prospect of being routed. Miss Bhutto said that she would accept the result only if it was similar to that of the 1988 and 1993 polls when her party was swept into power. She accused the caretaker administration of pre-election rigging in 63 of the 217 national assembly seats. There was, however, no evidence to support her allegations.

Mian Nawaz Sharif, who served as Prime Minister from 1990 to 1993, was widely tipped to resume the role as counting began last night after what appeared to be a dismal turnout. Only 15 to 20 per cent of the 5.6 million eligible to vote cast their ballots, the lowest in the country's history.

There were few reports of violence at polling stations, guarded by 250,000 troops and monitored by observers from the United States, the European Union, the Commonwealth, South Asia and the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan.

The defiant former Prime Minister, whose Government was dismissed on corruption charges by President Leghari three months ago, vowed that she would regain her lost political ground. She denied reports that she was planning to flee the country. "It is absolutely out of the question that I would ever abandon the

land where my father and brothers are buried," she said. Miss Bhutto's tone sent a clear warning to the new government that she would maintain her confrontational stance.

The voting trend clearly indicates, however, that she has significantly lost the charisma which once made her the most popular Pakistani leader. She is desperately fighting to maintain her political hold in Larkana, her home district. A shadow has been cast over her future by the death of her estranged brother, Murtaza, and the charging of her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, with his murder.

The disenchantment of her erstwhile supporters was clearly evident as an overwhelming majority of people in Larkana did not participate in the election. There were few people to greet her when Miss Bhutto visited polling stations. She looked extremely disturbed when she found out that she was the first person to vote in her local station an hour after polling started.

"We have always supported Benazir, but she did not do anything for us while in government," complained Ramli Bakhsh, a shopkeeper.

Miss Bhutto's position has been damaged not only by her detained husband, but also by the bitter family feud.

Her hitherto undisputed claim to the legacy of her late father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, a former Prime Minister who was executed in 1979 by a junta, has also been damaged by Ghinwa Bhutto, her Lebanese-born sister-in-law, Murtaza's widow, who now leads her husband's party, has campaigned fiercely against Miss Bhutto.



Nawaz Sharif, leader of the Pakistan Muslim League, is kissed by a supporter at the polls in Lahore yesterday

Imran Khan stumped at ballot box

By Our FOREIGN STAFF

TWO leading figures in Pakistan failed to vote in yesterday's election.

Imran Khan, the cricketer-turned-politician, failed to cast what would have been his first vote in an election because no one from his party, the Tehrik-i-Insaaf (Justice Movement), was standing in the town where he was registered.

And President Leghari did not vote because he said he could not travel to his home town.

Mr Khan, who founded his party last year, appeared in Mianwali, but found nobody from his party to vote for. He declined to vote for either of the two main

parties, Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League, or Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party.

"It was a question of either voting for the Muslim League or the People's Party," he told reporters. "Neither of the two parties, I feel, has done justice in the past and I do not expect wonders from them now. Unfortunately the Tehrik-i-Insaaf could not field a candidate in my constituency, so therefore I am abstaining."

Mr Khan, who led Pakistan to triumph in the 1992 cricket World Cup, has said he did not vote in previous elections because he was out of the country playing cricket.

He contested nine constituencies yesterday, as he is permitted to do under electoral law.

President Leghari comes from Dera Ghazi Khan, where his family members, including two sons, were candidates. But he told reporters during a visit to a polling station that he could not travel there because of his busy schedule and that he had not obtained a postal ballot.

He dismissed allegations by Miss Bhutto that the polls would be rigged and said all efforts had been made to plug loopholes so there would be no fraud.

He said there would be no delay in transferring power to the new government and that the next administration would be formed within two weeks.

not in a hurry to come to power. Benazir was in a great hurry and had to compromise on many things. She twice had a chance, but she messed up."

The two women are opposites. Benazir is arrogant and imperious, while Ghinwa is placid and a listener — the ideal demeanour for a woman moving in the conservative world of feudal landlords.

The battle dismays women's activists, who want the country's few women politicians to concentrate on women's rights. Miss Bhutto did not submit any legislation on women's issues to the National Assembly in her second term of office. Indeed, only one significant law was passed, the Abolition of Whipping Act. She preferred to govern through promulgating presidential ordinances, 335 of them in three years.

Hilda Saeed of the Women's Action Forum said: "I cannot think of any women politicians who have stood up for suppressed women."

Ghinwa is the only Sind-based politician who talks to the Mohajir Quami Movement, based in Karachi, which represents immigrants and their descendants from India.

This irks her sister-in-law, who refuses to talk to the MQM, which has fought a seven-year civil war against ethnic Sind — of which she is one. The battle of the Bhuttos has barely begun.



Benazir Bhutto: passion for power is undimmed

coming to it

Australian people's panel to debate axing monarchy

FROM ROGER MAYNARD
IN SYDNEY



AUSTRALIA will move a step nearer to the declaration of a republic today when the Government announces plans for a people's convention on the vexed issue of cutting constitutional ties with Britain.

John Howard, the Prime Minister, is expected to announce a July date for the nation to elect a group of about 300 citizens who will debate the wisdom of axing Australia's formal links with the United Kingdom.

A vote in favour when the convention meets in December would pave the way to a non-binding plebiscite, followed by a national referendum on the subject.

Half the delegates would be appointed and the other half elected under a national ballot; government sources said yesterday. Serving politicians

would not be allowed to run, but major political parties would be represented, with 50 per cent of appointed places reserved for delegates from federal, state and territorial parliaments. At least 10 per cent of places would go to people aged between 18 and 25.

Some of the top leaders in Tiananmen were snatched out of China along this web after the killings in the summer of 1989. Last year well known dissidents and former political prisoners such as Wang Xizhe, now in America, escaped to Hong Kong via Yellowbird.

Many of the dissidents, whose status is essentially defined as political refugees who would be in danger in

their native country if they returned, came out via an underground network called Operation Yellowbird, which is still operated by some of Hong Kong's criminal secret societies, the Triads, and their confederates across the border.

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A SECRET deal that will allow 40 Chinese dissidents sheltering in Hong Kong and their families asylum abroad before the Chinese takeover on July 1 was revealed yesterday.

According to *Time* magazine, eight foreign countries have "grudgingly" accepted the approximately 80 people. Britain is to take between ten and 15, but, like the other seven countries, the Hong Kong Government is unwilling to discuss the details for fear of antagonising Beijing. This reluctance may be unnecessary; it is understood

that the Chinese, who publicly demand that the Hong Kong authorities return the "criminals to justice", have warned Britain that it wants the dissidents gone before the transfer of sovereignty.

America will accept five to eight dissidents and Japan will take two. An Australian official is quoted as saying that his country has "taken our fair share and it is time for other countries, notably Britain, to do the same".

Many of the dissidents, whose status is essentially defined as political refugees who would be in danger in

their native country if they returned, came out via an underground network called Operation Yellowbird, which is still operated by some of Hong Kong's criminal secret societies, the Triads, and their confederates across the border.

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Between ourselves



The Conservative MP, Julian Critchley, left, and the US Gulf War general, Norman Schwarzkopf, right, two men who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer



PROSTATE CANCER This year 8000 men will die of common male cancer. Yet, unlike breast cancer, there is no screening programme. Jeremy Laurance reports on controversial new treatments

If the prostate were a female organ we would hear a lot more about it. Cancer of this small, neglected gland at the base of the bladder kills more men than the combined toll of cervical and ovarian cancer in women.

It is the second most common cancer in men, after lung cancer, claiming 8,600 lives a year and the death rate has doubled in the past 20 years. The rise is believed to be linked to our increased consumption of meat, although the mechanism is not under-

stood. Vegetarians are half as likely to get the disease.

Although breast cancer kills more women — almost 14,000 a year — the huge investment in developing new breast cancer treatments appears to have paid off and the death rate is falling. By contrast, deaths from prostate cancer are expected to go on rising and by 2010 it is predicted to be the biggest cancer killer of men.

Despite this rising toll, prostate cancer is little discussed and attracts attention only when it strikes a famous figure. The former French

President François Mitterrand died of the disease and the US Gulf War general, Norman Schwarzkopf, is a sufferer.

Other declared patients include the comedian Michael Bentine, who died last year, and the Conservative MP Julian Critchley.

Barely £400,000 a year is spent on prostate cancer research compared with an estimated £15 million on breast cancer research. Commenting on this disparity, Julian Critchley wrote: "Could it be that women are less inclined to be modest when talking

about breast cancer than men are about a condition that threatens and, indeed, destroys their virility?"

This week two reports reviewing research on the cancer are likely to provoke further controversy by casting doubt on the value of surgical treatments and dismissing calls for a national screening programme. The reports, conducted for the NHS by the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination at the University of York, will say most men diagnosed with the disease would be better off adopting a "watchful

waiting" policy to see how the disease develops rather than opting for radical treatment with the risk of serious side-effects and little prospect that it will extend life.

Screening tests for the cancer, such as that which led to a scare for comedian John Cleese (a biopsy later proved he was in the clear), detect raised levels of PSA (prostate specific antigen) in the blood, but are inaccurate — picking up only 30-40 per cent of tumours, although this can be increased when it is combined with other tests. More accurate tests are becoming available but they will still leave the patient in a dilemma of what treatment to choose. Doing nothing may often be best, but some men may feel uncomfortable about living with a cancer.

The early symptoms of prostate cancer are indistinguishable from those of benign (non-cancerous) enlargement of the prostate which affects almost all men as they grow older. The prostate gland, whose function is to produce the seminal fluid in which the sperm swim, surrounds the urethra — the tube connecting the bladder to the penis — and as it swells it may interfere with the flow of urine.

Difficulty in urinating, a weak or intermittent flow and increased frequency, especially at night, are the commonest

symptoms. A burning sensation when urinating, blood in urine or semen and pain in the lower back, upper thighs or pelvic area may also be present. The diagnosis of cancer can be confirmed by a biopsy — taking a small sample of tissue with a needle inserted via the rectum. The central puzzle of prostate cancer is that it defies the general rule that early detection and treatment is always

the best route to a cure.

Dr Jonathan Waxman, consultant oncologist at the Hammersmith Hospital, London, and director of the Prostate Cancer Charity, set up to raise funds for research, says the condition is best thought of as two diseases.

In the first, the cancer is

localised within the prostate gland itself and is mostly indolent or slow-growing. It is extremely common in older men, affecting four out of five of those aged over 80. Among 50-year-olds, between one in ten and one in 20 are affected but most will have no symptoms. "There is no evidence that early treatment prolongs life," Dr Waxman says.

In the second type of the disease, the cancer is fast-growing and may have spread

to other tissues such as the bones; or is very advanced within the prostate itself. Even in these cases, treatment should be conservative, aimed at curbing symptoms rather than attempting a cure. Dr Waxman says.

If you want treatment choose the least invasive option. Radiotherapy for local disease has far fewer side-effects than surgery," he says.

In cases where the cancer is more advanced or has spread, as revealed in bone or CT scans, treatment to suppress the action of the male hormone testosterone, on which the cancer depends, can delay progression of the disease in 80 per cent of cases. Other specialists disagree with this

approach. Roger Kirby, consultant urologist at St George's Hospital, London, says early treatment gives the best chance of stopping the disease in its tracks.

"We want to catch patients while the disease is still curable. If it has spread beyond the prostate it is incurable." At St George's, patients are offered the choice of surgery (removal of the whole gland, known as radical prostatectomy), radiotherapy or doing nothing. "We tell them we

don't know what is best but a radical prostatectomy proves the cancer has gone; the PSA level comes right down and we can say with some certainty that they are cured."

"Although watchful waiting is very cost-effective, it can damage the quality of life for some people to have the sword of Damocles hanging over them."

Rarely, the cancer may recur after surgery, but if caught early the cure rate is 80 per cent, Mr Kirby says.

Dr Waxman claims up to 70 per cent of men undergoing radical surgery to remove the prostate are rendered impotent and 40 per cent are made incontinent. He says surgeons who dispute these figures have not questioned patients closely enough about side-effects.

Mr Kirby rejects these figures. "If I had an incontinence rate of 40 per cent I would be out of business. I have done 250 radical prostatectomies and our incontinence rates are about 3 per cent. However, the impotence rate is over 50 per cent. That is the trade-off for removing the cancer and getting a zero PSA. A lot of men in their 50s and 60s are prepared to take that choice. But I always say if you are worried, choose radiotherapy."

The Prostate Cancer Charity, 100 Caxton Road, London, WC2N 5DN. Helpline 081-383 1948.

Bitchy, a

Rachel M...

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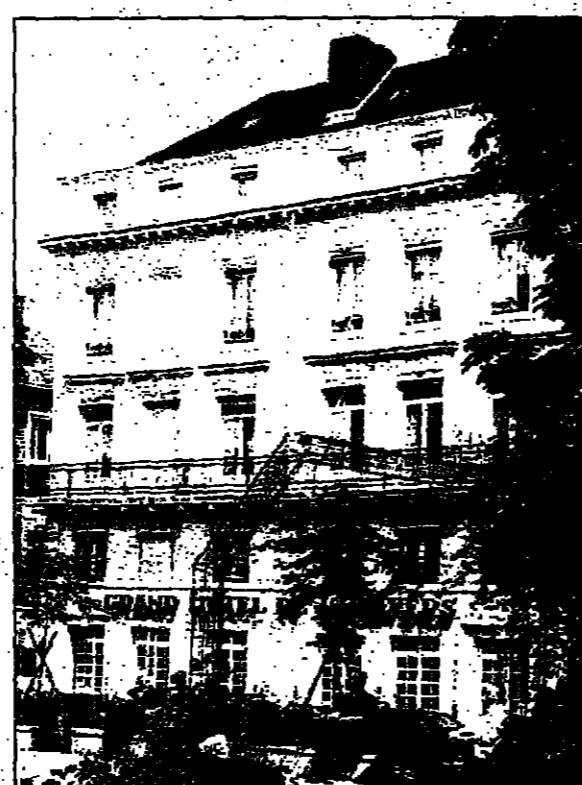
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CHANGING TIMES

Betrayed by my own brain

Cecil Todes, a child psychiatrist, was 38 when Parkinson's disease forced him into a tortuous, irreversible spiral of decline

my treating a 12-year-old girl who had hysterical paralysis of her leg she ended up walking across the room unaided.

"I was excited by the thought that Parkinson's disease might, in my case, also have its genesis in early traumatic experience. At the age of seven, my mother died. It was the most shattering event in my life."

"By the second drug-free day, and after two sleepless nights, my wife became increasingly alarmed by my feverish excitement. On the fourth day I found myself so excessively excited and exhausted that I allowed my wife to call a trusted colleague and friend. My GP prescribed Largactil. After recovery in hospital, I gave up my bid for self-care.

"My search for a cure began in the autumn of 1971. I began instructing myself about the relatively new treatment with L-dopa; with prevention in mind and the current theory that large quantities of the drug might indeed retard the progression of Parkinson's disease, I started myself with L-dopa in as large and many doses as I could tolerate."

"Four years into the illness Dr Todes's neurologist went to America and he was unhappy with his successor."

"I disapproved of his piece-meal approach to my symptoms, his failure to treat me as a total person and his prescribing additional drugs."

"Then, during the course of

about the illness, it is more of an emotional rollercoaster."

"The capacity to respond positively to medication supports the hope, each time, that one can lead an unrestricted life for part of the time. It is as if the gods breathing fire into

a knotted body free it to feel and think, to show expansion and live with rhythm. Life is then worthwhile and one evades the sure knowledge of a let-down of magical expectation to discover that one is getting worse, not better, and more than that, the doctor can do nothing about it."

• Adapted by Anjana Ahuja from *Shadow Over My Brain*, by Cecil Todes, (Windrush £12.95)

PEOPLE who suffer from it get fed up. Just thinking about it makes it worse. And many prescribed drugs have adverse effects. But there are qualified people who now specialise in treating this embarrassing condition painlessly. I found them, he said, at The Medical Centre in Weymouth Street, London W1N 3RA. Call them on 0171-637 0218, now!

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Tara McCarthy wrote the book after a night out with girlfriends: "There is no sane voice talking about this to 16-year-old girls"

Sex and the single virgin



Tara McCarthy is a rock critic and a New Yorker. At the age of 26 she has written a book in praise of virginity — her own. Quentin Letts reports

Quite the most surprising sexual disclosure for several years has just been made by a svelte, 26-year-old rock music critic from New York, Tara McCarthy, whom some of the murkier prints might call a "lonesome, long-legged lovely"; has admitted to the world: I am a virgin.

Miss McCarthy, moreover, has written a slim volume on the matter, to be published in June. *Been There, Haven't Done That — A Virgin's Memoir* is its title, and the old literary slurs I know in the book trade reckon it will sell like hot buns. It is, as they rightly note, a long, long time since anyone made such a brassy declaration.

Her bold statement of virginity may finally mark a new era in which young women will realise that it is okay NOT to have sex with a bloke. Seated in her unusually neat, white-painted flat in Brooklyn, she says that since her started talking in public about her virginity she has received many messages of support from women of all ages who share her condition. "There is a silent society of virgins out there," she says briskly. "I've met loads of 'em."

The accent is Irish-American. Yes, she is a Roman Catholic, and convent-educated, but her faith was but one of many influences. She is not particularly churchy, unlike her late mother, a devout woman who died when Tara was 16. "I remember my mum telling me about sex, saying it was a thing you did with someone you loved," says Tara. Since then she has been waiting for "Mr Right".

There has been a stream of "Mr Wrongs", a gruesome, long line of them, to be frank, which is exactly what she is in her book. It goes into collar-loosening detail about some distinctly below-the-navel encounters; yet every time she remembered to say "no" at the crucial moment and is delighted to have done so.

Tara McCarthy is not the first woman to spread the message of restraint. Respectable old maids and the Archbishop of Canterbury have urged against casual sex, but this time the dispatch arrives from the front line, from a woman who strides confidently to her door, mini-skirt flapping to display a yard of slender, black-stockinged thigh. Has she a "type" of man? "Yeah — trendy." And it helps if they wear Doc Martens. What she may lack in the chest and chin departments she makes up for with wit and a beady eye. "I know I'm reasonably attractive," she says, without boasting. "I'm a very sexual person — not a prude. But it is just a personal, self-esteem issue. I'm saving myself."

The graphic detail of the book should ensure that it is read sweatily by every pubescent schoolgirl in America, but her message is the more shocking thing. Since 1963 — the Larkin's chronology — the Western world has reared its young increasingly to believe that there is no point withholding nature's lusts. In television, literature, the press, advertising and the family, the unrelenting message has been "go for it, kiddo — just take precautions". There have been free French letters at the school gate and sex lessons — loyally bestowed by the socialist state — from kindergarten upwards. Now, while the rest of America's young are copulating like voles, here is a sassy virgin to put the other view.

She will probably make a pot of gold. The network chat shows are clamouring at her door and the lecture tour beckons. There is also some public ribaldry to be ensured. Television news bulletins, which last week reported her story (along with *The Times*), inevitably gave it the soundtrack of Madonna's tacky little song *Like A Virgin*. She lets slip that her brother has also been taking some flak from his mates.

"I decided to write the book after I went out one night with a few girlfriends in New York," she says. "We spent the evening in various bars and the men who approached us all behaved the same way. They wanted only one thing. I see from the book that she is a woman who 'sips' her Guiness. Hmmm. That figures."

The lads in her local neighbourhood on New York's Staten Island acted much the same way as the handsome intellectual young studs she came across at Harvard and the cool, skinny rakes she found after moving to Ireland temporarily to cover Dublin's smoky rock scene. In squeeze after squeeze, she would meet a man, progress a certain distance, then go no further. Some guys, when told about her virginity, did an emotional handbrake turn and accelerated in the other direction. Others lingered, certain they were irresistible. They were not. Yet others, faced with perhaps being her first true lover and of failing to live up to the great night's expectations, legged it out of terror.

"If I'd had sex with every man who was willing to do it with me in the last five years I'd be afraid I'd catch something from myself," she writes in the book. "Any guy who's ready to jump into the sack with me has more than likely made the same jump with any number of women before me."

One boy, on the first night she met him, asked if she was on the Pill. "No," replied Tara. "What are we going to dooooo?" he wailed. Said she: "We're not going to have sex."

Not that the book is really anti-men. It is not our fault that the bra-burners of Sixties feminism encouraged this belief in serial swinging. Quite what the frowning feminist police will make of Tara McCarthy one shudders to think. Her book is being published by Warner, which last year released *The Rules*, a "how to catch your husband" book of romantic instruction, which the sisterhood LOATHED because it suggested the use of womanly guile. McCarthy says simply: "I have my own kind of feminism."

She claims she is guarding her purity not for any husband-to-be, but for her own spiritual satisfaction. She tries not to think too hard about the moment ahead. "I am not expecting a mind-blowing orgasm or the best sexual experience of my life. The physical pleasure of it isn't nearly so important to me as the emotional release — body and soul. When the right time comes I'll know it. For that matter you probably will, too. The earth may very well grind to a halt."

Her book will, one suspects, allow numerous women to breathe a sigh of relief at the thought that they are not alone in having yet to score, get lucky, land a lay. "There is no sane voice talking about this to 16-year-old girls at the moment," says McCarthy. "It's often coming from a religious person or someone political, but never anyone normal."

If she demanded that everyone follow her example she could be dismissed as a proselytising bore, a spoilsport in need of a good thrash in the long grass beyond mid-wicket. But the open manner in which Tara McCarthy discusses her virginity, and the merry acknowledgement that this world takes in all sorts, and the fact that some people may want a tumble earlier, some later, marks her simply as a champion of choice; a choice that social orthodoxy and peer pressure have, in recent years, denied too many girls. May Tara's earth move, but not till the day she says yes.

Bitchy, affectionate, confessional

Take a dozen women, a couple of novels, some wine — the result is a book club, says Rachel Morris

There's a seductive fashion sweeping the part of London where I live. By that peculiar law of the universe which ensures that we all do the same thing at the same time, every woman I know has joined a book club. I don't mean those competitive and ambitious organisations where top authors are invited to speak; but book clubs that are more like women's groups, where women can meet once a month to talk about books and to grow, by turns, bitchy,

defiant, affectionate and confessional.

The beauty of a book club is that anyone can start one. All you need is (up to) a dozen women, a couple of novels, a comfortable room and some bottles of wine. You should have no difficulty finding women to join because book clubs legitimise going out for women who do too much. Unable simply to slope off to the pub, we need the excuse of self-improvement. But remember that women are better at book clubs than men because the point about a book club is its intimacy and revelations. No book club I know of allows men into its meetings and if, at the end of the evening, a man should sidle in to share a cup of coffee, an embarrassed silence will fall upon the group.

Going to a book club is the mental equivalent of visiting a sauna: it's hot, steamy and conducive to conversation. And, quite simply, it's something that women do better



Rachel Morris: "When the book doesn't obliterate real life we move on to other things"

than men. The book club is where I go to get my fix of female camaraderie.

A wide variety of novels works best — everything from *Wolfe Soynka* to *The Horse Whisperer* via a couple of Russian classics. A different room each month is an advantage because it affords a glimpse into other women's lives. Finally, food, alcohol and something in common — like the school run — adds to the occasion because it's a common source of gossip. After that, the book club can commence.

Every meeting is different — some are sad, some wistful, some upbeat and some quarrelsome. It seems that we read novels to understand our lives because first we talk about the book, then we talk about other books and then, quite quickly, we shade off into talking about ourselves. In this way the book club is like the hairdresser or

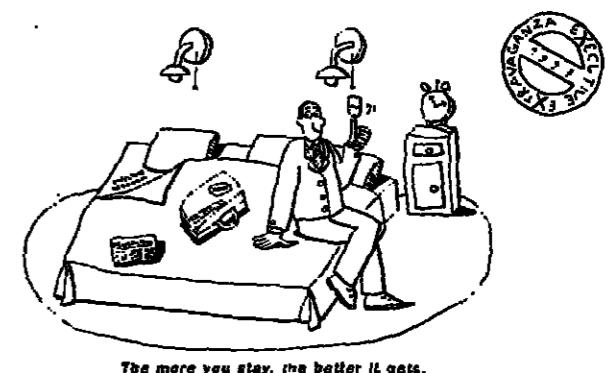
the beauty salon — it's where women go to tell each other stories. When the book, for some reason, doesn't obliterate real life then we move straight on to other things: work, partners, teachers, neighbours — all the themes, in fact, of a Joanna Trollope novel, which only goes to show that the woman knows one thing at least, and that is what interests human beings.

But sometimes the opposite occurs and the book rises above real life or at any rate lights it from a different angle, although it is not always the best books that have the most effect. *The Horse Whisperer* prompted a passionate debate between the puritans and the libertarians — which of us would leave our families, and for whom.

There is something very sweet about a book club meeting: it is like feminism

used to be in the 1970s — hugely supportive. In fact, the book club is probably the natural successor to the amateur class. Book clubs strengthen friendships that already exist and create others you would never have thought possible. And the longer a book club lasts, the stronger grows the camaraderie as bereavements, illnesses and divorces are brought into the group. Quite soon you will find that the book club starts to require a certain faithfulness. Unwritten rules apply — it's OK not to finish a book but not to pretend you've finished it when you haven't. Book clubs work because women have a natural swarming instinct, but also because of that peculiar power of novels to reach the parts of the human mind that would otherwise stay cold.

• *Ella and the Mothers*, by Rachel Morris, will be published by Sphere on April 17, £16.99



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Labour's no soft touch for Europe

The Shadow Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, on Tory vacillation

Whether to join a single currency should be decided after a hard-headed assessment of Britain's economic interests. The decision cannot be made now, but only when the time comes and the full facts are known.

We have made it clear that any decision by a Labour government to recommend joining will need to be backed by a referendum. Many Conservatives, however, seem ready to decide now not to join, before the full facts are known. They seem even to be prepared not to consider Britain's economic interests, but to rule out joining as a matter of principle, because of overriding constitutional objections.

Yesterday, the Foreign Secretary seemed to express sympathy for this view. He said the issue of a single currency was "much wider" than matters of economic self-interest, and that the Government had "not taken the view" that Britain should join if the conditions were right. So will the Government stay out of the single currency as a matter of constitutional principle if it goes ahead, and succeeds, and if Britain suffers from being outside it? The Cabinet is close to answering "yes".

Consider John Major's comments last week in *The New Yorker*. He said that giving control of interest rates to an independent European bank was an "argument for never going in, and

one we will have to confront at some stage". Tory Eurosceptics met this with glee, and took these remarks as a full endorsement of their position. Indeed the comments do lend themselves to that interpretation, but the Eurosceptics also know of Mr Major's habit of sending out contradictory signals over Europe.

The Prime Minister sees his role as balancing factors rather than winning the argument one way of the other. He has given the fatal impression that the Government's policy towards Europe is up for grabs. By responding to those who shout loudest at him, he has ensured that both sides shout very loudly indeed.

Look at the history of Mr Major's comments on Europe. Contrast, for example, his *New Yorker* comments on monetary union with his insistence to *The Irish Times* a few years ago. He said: "There is no more important issue facing the EC than the path we choose towards economic and monetary union. We are all committed to that goal. It is no longer news."

Equally, on the issue of a single currency referendum, he has allowed himself to be blown about. During the Maastricht debates he was unequivocal: "I am not in favour of a referendum in a parliamentary democracy, and I do not propose to put one before the British people." Taking his cue from this, Ken Clarke said that "if people in the chattering classes think that my constituents are longing to have a referendum on the details of economic and monetary union, I think they are slightly

up the creek". Yet as the shouting from his own side got louder, Mr Major was forced to concede a referendum.

His position on a multi-speed Europe has also been transformed. When he became leader, he could not have been clearer: "I don't want a two-speed Europe. I think two-speed Europe is unequivocally bad for Europe." Within a couple of years he was brazenly championing a Europe "varying when it needs to be multi-track, multi-speed, multi-layered". Yet even now he appears to be open to offers with regard to Britain's relations with the EU. Not long ago he said we should be "at the heart of Europe, working with our partners in building the future". Now he would not dare repeat that.

These examples are of more than historical interest. If John Major is unsure of his position, it is little wonder that his confusion is shared by his Cabinet, his party, the country, and other European governments. Britain loses influence in Europe because its Prime Minister has not set out his views coherently. He is perceived as being easily influenced and as being held to ransom, so his negotiating position lacks credibility. As a result, he cannot secure the best deal for Britain.

The recent indications of a more sceptical line should be seen not as a declaration of a new policy, but as the latest in a seemingly endless stream of contradictory statements. They will no doubt be balanced at some later stage by some carefully chosen Europhile remarks, as when, a few months ago, Mr Major described the Eurosceptics as "living in a cloud-cuckoo-land". Or perhaps the Eurosceptics demanding withdrawal will eventually get the upper hand.

There has been much talk about Europe waiting for Labour. Tories have been quick to argue that this is evidence that Europe believes we are a soft touch. This is fanciful. We will be prepared to use our veto on strategic issues, but that will not prevent isolation as a policy.

On the single currency, we will act according to British economic interests and the agreement of the people expressed in a referendum.

Yet it is true that many European governments are fed up with John Major's equivocations and self-contradictions over the single currency and everything else. The Tories' disarray on the issue has been thrown into stark relief by the revelation that Central Office has approved 12 different wordings of government policy for use in Tory candidates' personal manifestos. Little wonder that Britain's negotiating position in Europe is weak, vacillating and ineffective. Europe wants a strong Britain, capable of leading and shaping the debate, capable of talking on equal terms to the other leading players, capable of sticking to its guns. Under Labour, that is what Europe will get.

Which for all parents, is one long compromise. Some mothers and fathers I grant you, are selfish and insensitive enough to prize their own enjoyment and status above their children. Some are materialists who think you can buy anything. Some children are neglected in favour of work, just as others are neglected in favour of social life or shopping, booze or drugs.

Most parents, however, do better than that. They try to be thoughtful and unselfish, and they worry about their children. Some successfully manage two careers and a decent family life. It is not painless: there are unsung heroines (even a few heroes) who put their dearest ambitions on the back burner at some stage because they see that their children need another kind of support. They turn down the demanding promo-

tion, the glitz offer, the travelling brief or departmental responsibility. What Americans call the "mommy track" is a daily reality in thousands of women's lives. It is not much discussed, just ruefully acknowledged.

They mean to cause a chain of car-park accidents, design flaws, misdiagnoses, futile rows, orders faxed in error to Kinlochleven and cups of coffee split into the mounds of the photocopier? Is it the BBC a licensed Fat Boy with a mission to make women's flesh creep? Was the whole exercise the result of a canter bet on who could extrapolate most widely from the GCSE results of a handful of teenagers in Barking and Dagenham? Or was it just pure mischief to inspire headlines like the one saying "Can mothers work full-time without sacrificing their children's future?" (This is what Latinists call a *Num* question, one which expects the answer *No*, or to put it in the full form: "No, you selfish bitches, get back to the kitchen!")

Well, that's what TV journalism is all about, bless its excitable little heart. You can't think about monetary union all the time, and it was understandable that *Panorama* should seize joyfully upon the theory that children with two working parents do worse at school than those whose mothers work part-time. This conclusion was rather shakily based on a 600-strong survey in east London which showed that the children of full-time working mothers got worse GCSEs than those of parents who worked part-time.

I say shakily, not only because there is more to life than GCSE but because it also transpired — oops! — that the children of mothers at home full-time did even worse. This was brushed aside by the researchers on the grounds that those mothers were poor and badly educated, and so a bit hopeless anyway.

The general line of the argument — that women damage their children educationally as well as emotionally by going to work, even when they are at secondary school — was carried to the media. Daytime TV shows can now whip up studio arguments between overachieving power mums in Nicola Horlick suits and saintly homebodies in soft fluffy sweaters, with the obligatory renantuous child psychologist to add intellectual credibility. Defensive women will be asked to justify the daily structure of

their lives in a way no man would tolerate for a minute. Much hay will be made by those strangely irritating headmasters who like to get their names in the papers by pontificating about "middle-class deprivation" and citing mothers with high-powered jobs (ie, those who earn more than headmasters) as the sole reason why 15-year-olds mysteriously lose interest in what their very wonderful schools have to offer.

I refuse to enlist. Can't fight, won't fight. Politicians would do well to keep out of it too. It is not their business. The only thing to say to government is this: if you want to use public

policy for children's good, then don't waste time lecturing us. Concentrate instead on the unarguable needs of the very worst-off. Put money and imagination into helping the most deprived and ignorant and bewildered children: give them smaller classes, places to do homework, libraries, friendly guides and mentors to replace lousy parents. Give them psychiatric services, creative outlets, fresh air, safe clubs, guidance, hope. That should keep you out of mischief for a few days while the rest of us get on with life.

Which for all parents, is one long compromise. Some mothers and fathers I grant you, are selfish and insensitive enough to prize their own enjoyment and status above their children. Some are materialists who think you can buy anything. Some children are neglected in favour of work, just as others are neglected in favour of social life or shopping, booze or drugs.

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tion, the glitz offer, the travelling brief or departmental responsibility. What Americans call the "mommy track" is a daily reality in thousands of women's lives. It is not much discussed, just ruefully acknowledged.

Anybody with a wide acquaintance among women will have seen a pattern emerging in many different trades. Let us assume that you are not at the bottom of the financial heap, and can lower your joint earnings without actually losing your home. The pattern goes like this: you have babies and rapidly shed juvenile illusions about superwomanhood. After brusking encounters with the taking world of childcare, you decide to ease the pressure. You work part-time or freelance in your own trade if you are lucky, or do a dead-end but flexible job if you aren't. There are endless surprising variations on this: did you know that in the mid 1980s functions at 10 Downing Street were often catered for by two professional women from Suffolk with six small children and no nanny between them? They were so efficient that never once did a visiting statesman break a tooth on a bit of Lego in his vol-au-vent. When Margaret Thatcher fell, one caterer's small boy wanted to go on sending her minipizzas, such was his vicious loyalty.

There are women at home with sewing-machines, computers, icing-bags, galley-proof telephones. Some do crusty jobs because that is all they can get, but others are movers and shakers: major publicity campaigns for new books are often handled from messy front rooms with babies under the table, and high-profile national talking-points are raised in radio documentaries produced by job-sharing women who scrape Faren from highchairs while negotiating hot interviews on the phone. Devilishly ingenious, these mothers.

As children grow, some of these women ease back into jobs and schoolchildren accept that just as they

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A mother's career story, sometimes a father's too, is an everyday story of conflicting duties, compromise with fate, odd lucky breaks and frustrating missed chances. But then, so is life itself. Moral choices are everywhere, every day. Parent or not, you can opt to be self-centred and insensitive to the suffering of those who depend on you. Or you can try to do your best, and have the humour and humility to recognise a stupid cruel situation when you find your family trapped by one. With luck you have the cunning to wriggle out of it and make everybody slightly happier.

So cheer up, sister. Stop banging your head on the coffee machine and summon up a watery smile. Do what you judge best. As long as you are honest in the judging things will probably be all right.

Hello girls

• Humphrey the Downing Street cat was moulting profusely in the Cabinet Office waiting-room yesterday. Is he coming out in sympathy with Tony Blair?

The creeps

IN RECOGNITION of the tenacious interviewing techniques of Radio 4's *Today* programme hosts,



"Do you regret calling them Fifi and Enya?"

James Naughtie and John Humphrey, London Zoo has named two cockroaches in their honour.

The reviled insects (*Periplaneta americana*) appeared on the show last week alongside the Secretary of State for Agriculture, Douglas Hogg, to illustrate their potential use as spies down inaccessible crevasses, with mini-cameras strapped to their backs.

"They arrived when I was interviewing the Secretary of State, looking quite frisky in their sandwich box," recalls Humphrey, "but while Hogg was talking, one of them flipped over on its back, wiggling its legs in the air as if it was about to expire." Apparently Hogg was unimpressed by his ugly audience when it was pointed out: "You should try sitting in Cabinet," he said.

Sickening

BUMPED OUT of his frontline position as spokesman-in-chief for the Referendum Party, Patrick "PR" Robertson yesterday took the day off work with food poisoning. Colleagues say he was close to tears after the appointment of Bernard Shrimley, an old newspaper hand, as his successor.

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The new Director of the CIA, Tony Lake, Andrew goes on, "was at Trinity, as were Burgess, Blunt, Philby and Cairncross. Cambridge is so even-handed it produces the best spies for everyone."

According to Andrew, many old-timers who passed on information during the Cold War still prefer to use their old KGB communications kit rather than fax or e-mail when reminiscing with their old comrades.

"Take a look at Oxford," adds Andrew cryptically. "There is that only semi-explained matter of Norman Stone's departure to his Chair of Eternal Truth, or whatever it is. In Turkey. Interesting, isn't it?"

• Smoke emission rules mean that bottles of favourite alcoholic drinks can no longer be placed in coffins due to cremation. Also out are books, records, tins of paint (over my head, that one), leather jackets and crash helmets. Computerised cremators can tell whether smoke emission regulations are being breached, which means the dead must go on their way alone.

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• More and more

Together at last for the benefit of all residents

John Young reports on the new spirit of co-operation among the local authorities in the Thames Gateway

In March next year, 17 years after it was created, the London Docklands Development Corporation will be wound up. From then on the regeneration of a much larger area, extending along both banks of the Thames, will be the responsibility of a triumvirate comprising English Partnerships (central government), Thames Gateway London Partnership (mainly local authorities) and North Kent Success (a mixture of public and private sector).

In 1981 it was the failure of the local authorities to promote initiatives, attract investment or agree on any kind of joint policy that prompted Michael Heseltine, then the Environment Secretary, to take drastic action. From next year the same councils, along with others in the area, will be back in the driving seat, with the task of reversing decades of economic decline. Will it be any better this time?

Roger Squire, assistant chief executive of the LDDC, is moderately optimistic. He believes there is a new spirit of co-operation abroad and that local authorities, having seen what can be achieved in the Docklands, will adopt a more entrepreneurial approach. Things may not happen so fast, and there may be more public consultation, but the Gateway project will not be allowed to lose momentum.

His view is shared by Ralph Luck, regional director of English Partnerships, a Government-sponsored public body established in 1993 as the Urban Regeneration Agency and relaunched the following year to take over the work of English Estates in providing the infrastructure to attract private capital. As well as administering grants from the Department of the Environment to assist deprived areas and to finance derelict land reclamation, it is also charged with stimulating the public

and private sectors to collaborate in economic development, job creation and environmental improvement.

Although the Thames Gateway area contains some of the poorest boroughs in Britain, it is still lumped in with the overall prosperity of southeast England, and approaches to



The Shell Foundry Gate at Woolwich Arsenal

Brussels for regional aid have fallen on deaf ears.

The realisation that they are not in line for any handouts

has, Mr Luck thinks, forced them to become more "sensible" and self-reliant. Co-operation and imagination will be badly needed if such projects as restoring and finding new uses for the historic buildings within Woolwich Arsenal, and clearing up derelict and polluted areas around Dartford in Kent and Rainham Marshes in Essex, are to have any chance of success.

One of his organisation's main "marketing" tasks will

be to improve the image of the area, in particular he believes that privatised utilities have been

allowed to evade their responsi-

bilities for restoring contaminated land.

Kevin Kingston is the director of Thames Gateway London Partnership, which comprises 12 local authorities working with the LDDC, English Partnerships and two training and enterprise councils (Tesco). Within the partnership area are 5,000 acres zoned for development, two proposed international stations on the Channel Tunnel rail link and the principal site of the millennium celebrations at Greenwich. He says: "I think the project is really gaining momentum." He cites the fact that the partnership has been allotted the largest grant to date from the Government's single regeneration budget, some £30 million towards the £65 million cost of a programme called Skills for the Millennium. Its aims are to create local jobs for local people by developing the skills needed by business and industry, improving educational standards and upgrading the infrastructure.

He counters fears of a return to political infighting by pointing out that local authorities have for the first time got together to form a partnership. "We have got our act together at last," he says. "There is a new dynamism."

Nonetheless, the local authority-dominated partnership might be advised to take a close look at North Kent Success, a much more broadly based organisation in which the county council and five district councils have joined forces with voluntary organisations and more than 50 private companies.

Peter Greenwell, its chief executive, sees the Gateway project as the key to the regeneration of the whole of north Kent. "For American and other companies needing an English-speaking base in Europe, we are ideally situated," he says.

Bluewater Park, near the new Ebbsfleet station, will have 3,000 homes, 5.3 million sq ft of offices, a shopping centre and a 9,000-vehicle car park

Hop on here for Paris

UNLIKELY though it may seem when casting an eye over the dreary Thames Gateway landscape, this run-down part of London will have some of the best connections in Britain to the glamour of Paris, Brussels and beyond by early next century.

If one project above all

symbolises the hopes for the regeneration of the area, it is the Channel Tunnel rail link (CTRL), the most ambitious above-ground civil engineering project since the last war.

This high-speed Eurostar line will whisk passengers from St Pancras

through east London and north Kent to the Channel Tunnel when it is completed in 2003.

A Thames Gateway terminal

has always been part of the £1 billion proposal.

Last February Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, announced that two rival sites, Stratford in east London and Ebbsfleet, an abandoned industrial site near the Dartford Bridge in Kent, would both become stations.

The station at Stratford, which has good overground and Tube railway links and is

soon to be linked to the Jubilee Line, will be sited halfway along the length of a 12-mile tunnel under east London.

The station is expected to become the main terminal for Eurostar passengers

living in east London and Essex.

It will also be a stop for "north of London" Channel Tunnel trains linking the Midlands, North of England and Scotland.

It is also expected to make

Stratford an attractive, if unli-

kely, business location in its

own right through combining

easy access to the City as well

as to Paris and Brussels.

The planned station at

Ebbsfleet, just a few miles

further east, offers different

attractions. Sited close to the

M25 and the A2, the terminal

will double as an attractive

commuter connection for resi-

dents of north Kent. The new

commuter services that will

use the CTRL as well as

Eurostar will take 20 minutes

to reach St Pancras station

from Ebbsfleet.

The nearby Bluewater Park

site will have a car park for

9,000 vehicles, a major shop-

ing centre, 3,000 new homes

and up to 5.3 million sq ft of

commercial office space.

JONATHAN PRYNN

Development brings homes, jobs, exhibition centre — and plenty of fish

Royal finale for the Docklands dream

At the seaward end of the old London docklands are the splendid Royal Docks, once among the largest in the world and capable of handling the biggest ships afloat. For Roger Squire, assistant chief executive of the London Docklands Development Corporation, they represent the final challenge, the last and biggest piece in the completion of its

millennium, will accommodate some 3,000 students, and the total is expected to rise to an eventual 7,500. The campus will also house the Thames Gateway Technology Centre, for which John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, has already announced a £7.8 million grant. The LDDC will be a thing of the past long before the final programme is completed, and future responsibility will fall upon English Partnerships.

The great expanses of enclosed water are already home to a range of watersports including rowing, sailing, waterskiing and windsurfing, but the Royal Zoological Society is keen that the space should be shared with fish housed in a new national aquarium.

JOHN YOUNG

AT THE HEART OF THE THAMES GATEWAY, LONDON'S GREENEST DEVELOPMENT LOCATION.

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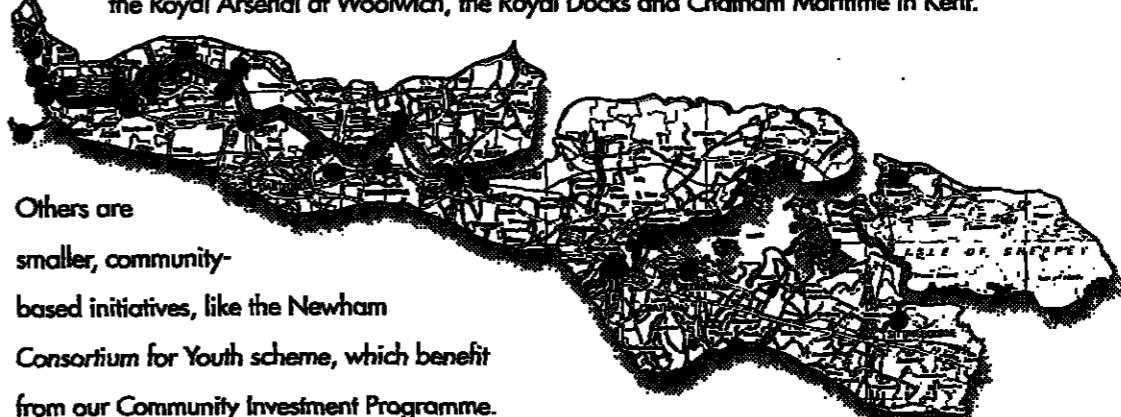
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FROM NEWHAM TO CHATHAM... ...AND FROM THE ROYAL DOCKS TO THE ROYAL ARSENAL...

Throughout the length and breadth of the Thames Gateway, English Partnerships is investing in major regeneration schemes which, with the help of our partners from the public, private and voluntary sectors, will bring long-term benefits to the communities in which they are situated.

Many are high-profile projects, such as the Millennium Festival site at Greenwich Peninsula, the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, the Royal Docks and Chatham Maritime in Kent.



For further details of our investment programmes within the Thames Gateway and throughout London and the South East, contact our office at:

58-60 St. Katharine's Way, London E1 9LB. Tel: 0171-680 2000. Fax: 0171-680 2040.



ENGLISH PARTNERSHIPS
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http://www.netadv.co.uk/thames_gateway

Fantasy winner must come out of the shadows



APPROPRIATE, really. Interactive Team Football is a fantasy competition and this week we have, in one sense, a fantasy winner. The winner's team is printed below—which gained a winning score of 63 points—but that is about as much as can be known about the person's identity.

He or she has won £250, but will need to contact the competition organisers on the telephone number at the end of this piece in order to prove identity. *The Times* has the personal identification number of the entrant, and a list of the transfers made.

Happily, the winner of the monthly prize for January is able to be named. Mr P Turner, of St Helier, Jersey, wins £1,000 with his team, Turner's Earners 5, having scored 156 points over the past month. Mr Turner is also still in contention for the main prize of £50,000, (yup in 38th place). John Hunt, from Taunton, remains the overall leader.

The (anonymous) winning team is:

Goalkeeper
K Pressman (Sheffield Wed)

Fall backs
M Malpas (Dundee Utd)
A Wright (Aston Villa)

Central defenders
U Ehiogu (Aston Villa)
D Walker (Sheffield Wed)

Midfield players
N Ardley (Wimbledon)
D Beckham (Manchester Utd)
R Lee (Newcastle)
T Tzvetanov (Aberdeen)



Shearer's hat-trick against Leicester City won the game for his team and made him the leading ITF points-scorer



To improve flagging fortunes, you can use the ITF transfer system which allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 866 968 line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call 044 990 200 668.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option.

□ All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01524 488 122.

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from August 1996 to April 1997. Penalties, shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper	Striker
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts
Scored goal	3pts
Scored penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender	3pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts
Scored goal	3pts
Midfield player	Manager
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt
Scored goal	2pts

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper	Striker
Concedes goal	2pts
Full back/Central defender	2pts
Concedes goal	1pt
All players	Manager
Sent off	Team loses
Sent off	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match

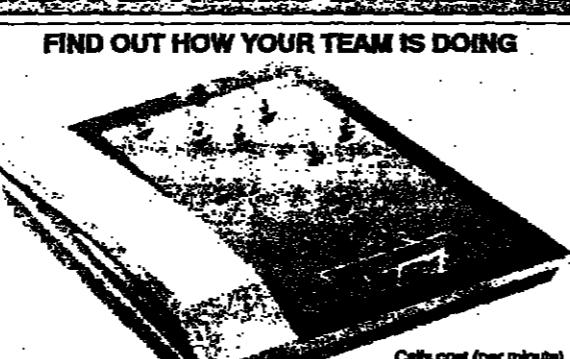
□ All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01524 488 122.

THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

IN		
30/04	Gay Bran	Coverby City
30/04	Aleksandr Evtushok	Coverby City
30/04	Stephen Hughes	Aspatria
20/05	Regis Gérard	Coverby City
21/05	Antoine Sibille	St Helier
21/05	Jan Ange Fornot	Middlesbrough
OUT		
20/05	Regis Gérard	Coverby City
21/05	Antoine Sibille	St Helier
21/05	Jan Ange Fornot	Middlesbrough
LOANED PLAYERS		
20/05	Regis Gérard	Coverby City
21/05	Antoine Sibille	St Helier
21/05	Jan Ange Fornot	Middlesbrough

DPHants (Cheltenham, one week); SHants (Nottingham Forest to Ipswich, one week); T Wright (Nottingham Forest to Manchester City, one week); K Scott (Tottenham to Norwich, two weeks); A Miller (Middlesbrough to Grimsby, three weeks); M Lubatschewski (Derby to Oxford United, one month).

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Cells cost (per minute)

45p cheap rate,
50p other times.

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Call the ITF on 0891 884 643
Outside UK: 44 890 100 343

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THE TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 4 1997

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Em	Wk	On
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	+4 -5		
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	-0 -14		
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	+4+34		
10202	V Bartman	Arsenal	0.75	-0 -0		
10203	J Lukic	Aston Villa	3.50	+4 -6		
10301	M Boenich	Aston Villa	1.00	-0 +19		
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-0 -2		
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	-0 -4		
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	-0 -1		
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	3.00	+4+12		
10601	D Kharine	Chester	2.50	-0 -10		
10602	K Hitchcock	Chester	2.00	-1 -25		
10603	F Grodias	Chester	3.00	-0 -3		
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	+10 -14		
10702	J Filan	Coventry City	0.50	-0 -0		
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	-0 -0		
10802	R Houli	Derby County	1.00	+4 -12		
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	-0 -14		
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	-1 -10		
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	2.50	-0 -22		
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.00	-0 -1		
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.00	-5 -14		
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	-0 -1		
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	+4 -25		
11401	D Leovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	-3 -34		
11501	M Beane	Leeds United	1.50	+5 -5		
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	-0 -0		
11503	N Wartyn	Leeds United	2.50	+5+20		
11601	N Pepe	Leicester City	1.00	-0 -6		
11603	K Keane	Leicester City	1.00	-8 -17		
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	+5+23		
11702	A Warmer	Liverpool	0.50	-0 -0		
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-2 -9		
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	-0 -5		
11803	G Welsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	-0 -20		
11804	A Miller	Motherwell	1.50	-2 -23		
12101	P Smicak	Newcastle United	4.00	-6 -15		
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-4 -32		
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	0.75	-0 -0		
12203	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.50	-1 -33		
12301	S Thomson	Rangers	2.00	+11+11		
12401	A Goram	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	-0 -0		
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	-2 -28		
12502	M Deasent	Southampton	0.50	-0 -2		
12601	N Moss	Southampton	1.00	-3 -23		
12604	M Taylor	Southampton	1.00	-3 -2		
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	1.00	-2 -16		
12803	A Coton	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	-4 -12		
12804	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	-0 -0		
12805	E Beardsen	West Ham United	2.00	-3 -20		
12901	L Miskoski	West Ham United	0.50	-0 -5		
12902	S Mautone	West Ham United	1.00	-4 -2		
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	-0 -0		
13002	P Headland	Wimbledon	1.00	-0 -0		



Martyn, the Leeds United goalkeeper, continues to amass points in ITF while his defence stands firm

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Em	Wk	On
20101	S McMinnie	Aberdeen	2.00	-0 +8		
20201	L Dinen	Arsenal	3.00	+4+24		
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	+3+29		
20203	S Murray	Arsenal	1.00	-0 +1		
20301	S Stanton	Aston Villa	3.00	+4+31		
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	2.50	-0 -0		
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	0.25	-0 -0		
20304	P King	Aston Villa	3.00	+4+28		
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	-1+19		
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-1+24		
20402	G Is Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-1+18		
20403	J Keane	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	-0 -2		
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+4+23		
20501	J McNamee	Celtic	3.00	-1 -4		
20502	T McKinney	Celtic	3.00	-0 +13		
20601	D Pascucci	Celtic	2.00	-0 -6		
20602	S Clarke	Celtic	1.00	-1 -1		
20603	S Minto	Celtic	1.50	-0 -8		
20701	M Burrows	Coventry City	1.00	-4 -4		
20702	N Burrows	Coventry City	1.00	+12		
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.50	-0 -2		
20705	R Genoux	Derby County	1.50	+4 -9		
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.00	-0 -4		
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	-4+42		
20901	M Melches	Dundee United	1.00	+4+32		
20902	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	-0 -30		
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.25	-0 -7		
21002	A Tod	Dunfermline	2.50	+2 -6		
21011	M Hotliger	Everton	2.00	-0 -4		
21012	J Hinchliffe	Everton	2.00	+14+24		
21023	T Phelan	Everton	2.00	-1 -4		
21033	E Barnett	Hearts	1.50	+1+10		
21201	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	+4 -8		
21202	N Polton	Hearts	1.00	-0 -6		
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	-3 -4		
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	-2 -14		
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	3.00	-7+35		
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	2.50	+8+13		
21502	P Dorigo	Leeds United	0.50	-0 -13		
21503	P Beesley	Leeds United	0.50	-0 -13		
21504	G Halle	Leeds United	1.00	+8+16		
21601	M Whitton	Leicester City	0.50	-0 -6		
21603	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.25	-0 -3		
21604	F Rolling	Liverpool	3.00	-0 -0		
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	1.50	-0 -0		
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.00	-4+42		
21703	S I Bjornebye	Liverpool	1.00	-0 -0		
21801	G Nevile	Manchester United	4.00	+3+33		
21803	P Nevile	Manchester United	3.00	-0 -2		
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	1.50	-0 -1		
21904	C Morris	Middlesbrough	0.75	-0 -5		
21905	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.25	-0 -1		
21906	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.50	-0 -1		
21907	V Kinder	Middlesbrough	0.50	-0 -3		
22002	S McMillan	Motherwell	8.00	-0 -3		
22003	D Kirkwood	Newcastle United	2.00	-2+13		
22004	D Robertson	Newcastle United	2.50	-4 -2		
22005	L Briscoe	Newcastle United	1.00	-4 -2		
22006	J Dodd	Newcastle United	0.75	-0 -10		
22007	F Benali	Newcastle United	0.50	-1 -17		
22008	S Charlton	Newcastle United	1.00	-0 -8		
22009	D Kubicki	Sunderland	1.00	-0 -4		
22010	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	-0 -8		
22011	G Hall	Sunderland	1.50	-1 -1		
22012	J Eriksson	Sunderland	2.00	-2+6		
22013	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	-0 15		
22014	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	-0 -1		
22015	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	-0 -6		
22016	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	-1 -6		
22017	S Carr	West Ham United	4.00	-2+15		
22018	K Dicks	West Ham United	1.00	-3 -3		
22019	T Bresciano	West Ham United	1.00	-0 -4		
22020	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	-0 -9		
22021	M Bowen	Wimbledon	1.50	-1 -2		
22022</						

NEWS

Major takes poll battle to Brussels

■ Tony Blair will today blame European Union policies for mass unemployment across the continent and give a warning that acceptance of the social chapter in Britain would lead to all the problems that "brought us to our knees" in the 1970s.

The Prime Minister will deliver his attack in Brussels, but his underlying message will be aimed at the domestic audience as he seeks to highlight the biggest policy difference between the Conservatives and Labour. Page 1

Tory lion is a pussy cat really

■ The lion cast as the patriotic hero in the latest Conservative poster campaign was yesterday hailed by the party high command as the star of a big new film. But it soon emerged that the celebrity, known as King, gave such a poor performance that it ended on the cutting room floor. Page 1

Pakistan election

The leader of Pakistan's Muslim League, Mian Nawaz Sharif, was confident of victory after a general election in which voter turnout fell to an unprecedented low. Pages 1, 15

New millionaires

The sharp contrast between how lottery winners handle their fortunes after they have become overnight millionaires was revealed. Page 1

Stepfather arrested

Police investigating the disappearance of Zoe Evans, aged nine, in Wiltshire last month arrested her stepfather. Page 1

Labour worry

Labour sought to play down any suggestion that it had softened its position on a single currency after Robin Cook's admission that a Labour government might join a single currency in 2002. Page 2

Road rage death

A motorist saw his two friends shot in the head at close range by another driver after a minor accident in a case of "road rage taken to its extreme", a court was told. Page 3

Parents' damages

The parents of a teenage girl who died an agonising death after five hospital doctors failed to diagnose an ovarian cyst have accepted an out-of-court settlement of about £30,000. Page 4

Beryl Reid remembers her cats

■ Beryl Reid left her £200,000 cottage on the banks of the Thames to an actor — with a request that he looks after her six cats. Miss Reid, 76, also left Paul Strike, 48, who has a non-speaking role in the television hospital drama *Casualty*, most of the contents and £2,000. At one time Miss Reid had 13 cats, many named after friends and colleagues. Page 5



Riot police blocking the path of 80,000 demonstrators during an anti-government rally in Belgrade yesterday. Page 13

Reluctant hero

A remarkable story of wartime courage kept secret for half a century has been revealed with the death of a reluctant hero incarcerated in Colditz by the Nazis. Page 6

Stone age gum

Stone Age teenagers developed a 5,000-year-long taste for a smoke-flavoured chewing gum made from birch bark, research has shown. Page 27

Tories falter

The Tories' by-election campaign in Wimborne falttered as it began when Michael Heseltine and Stephen Dorrell delivered two contrasting messages. Page 10

Lordly detective

The clothes are more ceremonial than plain, but detective Rodney Muff believes he will have no trouble fitting in at the House of Lords after giving up his job to take his seat. Page 11

Nato's 'mistake'

The Kremlin described the enlargement of Nato to include countries in Eastern Europe as the "biggest mistake by Western leaders for 50 years". Page 12

Clinton tax cuts

President Clinton will make £61.25 billion of tax cuts the centrepiece of his budget, which will be unveiled before Congress on Thursday, in an attempt to appease Republicans. Page 14

Industry: British manufacturing staged a rebound but the news should not tilt the balance in favour of higher interest rates because of sterling's strength. Page 27

Departure: Ivory & Sime the Edinburgh fund manager, insisted that it was not for sale as it sought to restore stability after the surprise departure of Colin Hook, managing director. Page 27

Prison: Richard Lines, the 60-year-old former founder and chairman of MTM, the chemicals giant began a two-year prison sentence for a fraud in which investors lost £250 million. Page 50

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 18 to 4,257.8. Sterling rose to 95.3 after rises from \$1.6027 to 1.6130 and DM 6.23 to DM 6.497. Page 30

Racing: The prospect of an Irish victory in the Cheltenham Gold Cup — and a repeat of last year's post-race chaos — has prompted a security clampdown. Page 47

Football: England's hopes of staging the 2006 World Cup rose when Fifa confirmed that more than one country from each of the continental associations could apply. Page 52

Rugby union: The president of the RFU said that the position of Cliff Brittle, the chairman of the union's executive committee, was becoming "less and less tenable". Page 52

Cricket: West Indies beat Australia by ten wickets in the final Test in Perth, their fifth win out of five on the ground, but lost the series 3-2. Page 50

Restraint: Tara McCarthy's statement of virginity says it is OK not to have sex with a man. Page 17

Join the club: All you need are several women, a few novels, a comfortable room and some bottles of wine. Page 17

LIBBY PURVES: Did *Panorama* deliberately set out to undermine the economy this morning by upsetting huge swathes of the workforce? Did they mean to cause a chain of car-park accidents, design flaws, misdiagnoses, futile rows, orders faxed in error to Kinlochbervie and cups of coffee split into the inwards of the photocopier? Page 18

ROBIN COOK: Europe wants a strong Britain, capable of leading and shaping the debate, capable of talking on equal terms, capable of sticking to its guns. Under Labour, that is what they will get. Page 18

PETER RIDDELL: The potential gains for the Tories by campaigning on Europe may be offset by the party's divisions on the issue. Page 11

Sir William Crawshay, DSO, soldier; Vero Wynd-Edwards, professor of natural history, Aberdeen University; Frank Clarke, electronic engineer. Page 21

Nurses' pay: European monetary union; David Barclay on privacy; Pilgrimage of Grace. Page 19

Blood and sand: Veteran stage designer Ralph Koltai is the man brought in by Raymond Gubbay to blow up *Carmen* into an Albert Hall-sized spectacle. Page 36

ENO's home: Now that the dust has settled, Rodney Milnes takes a cool look at the row over the future of the Coliseum and concludes that ENO should stay quiet. Page 36

In the pinc: The National Gallery is putting the young Gainsborough on show with a parade of portraits full of fresh charm — yet he was no simple country lad. Page 37

Myths and mites: Russian composers provide the music for Kim Brandstrup's two new ballets for Arc Dance, and although 50 years separate the scores, the works are remarkably alike. Page 38

Right to know: A law in America has introduced a national register of paedophiles. Page 39

Crime and punishment: Lord Mackay of Clashfern wants to speed up delays in bringing juries to justice. Page 43

THAMES GATEWAY: Broad-sweeping plans for the regeneration of a London landscape. Pages 22, 23

In the face of Spain's offer of co-sovereignty over Gibraltar, made as a formula for compromise and evolution towards a more normal situation, Britain has responded in the usual manner. We Europeans are used to living with its "peculiar" postures. But for how long?

— ABC, Madrid. Page 19

IN THE TIMES

HOMES: A 16-page supplement gives the latest news and gossip on people and their homes

INTERFACE: The technology section reports on how IT is helping disabled people



Riot police blocking the path of 80,000 demonstrators during an anti-government rally in Belgrade yesterday. Page 13

Preview: When Megan Kanka was raped and killed her parents campaigned for a new law on paedophiles. *Inside Story* (BBC1, 10pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss in praise of infallible McCallum. Page 51

The Cook currency

Labour's European policy may not be as dangerous as the new Conservative advertisement seems to suggest. But, on balance, Labour is more likely to lead Britain into EMU. Page 19

Milosevic and friends

The greater the co-ordination of Western policies towards Serbia, the better. In Britain's case the impact of official firmness is weakened by the business involvement with Mr Milosevic of Douglas Hurd. Page 19

Foul play

Uefa should not be allowed to elbow England off the field before the World has a chance to judge its fitness. The FA is right to cry foul. Page 19

LIBBY PURVES

Did *Panorama* deliberately set out to undermine the economy this morning by upsetting huge swathes of the workforce? Did they mean to cause a chain of car-park accidents, design flaws, misdiagnoses, futile rows, orders faxed in error to Kinlochbervie and cups of coffee split into the inwards of the photocopier? Page 18

ROBIN COOK

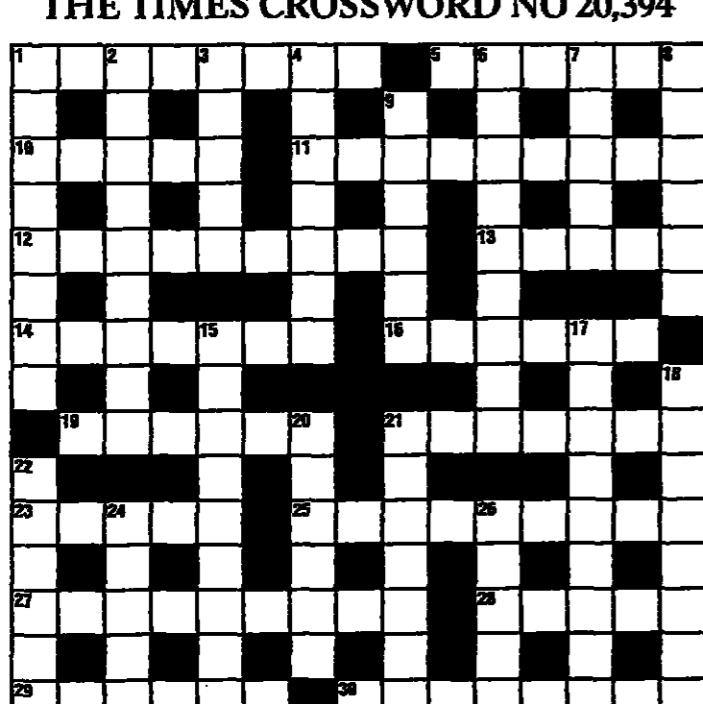
Europe wants a strong Britain, capable of leading and shaping the debate, capable of talking on equal terms, capable of sticking to its guns. Under Labour, that is what they will get. Page 18

PETER RIDDELL

The potential gains for the Tories by campaigning on Europe may be offset by the party's divisions on the issue. Page 11

Sir William Crawshay, DSO, soldier; Vero Wynd-Edwards, professor of natural history, Aberdeen University; Frank Clarke, electronic engineer. Page 21

Nurses' pay: European monetary union; David Barclay on privacy; Pilgrimage of Grace. Page 19

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Gates says UK is in danger of eclipse in software revolution

FROM CAROLINE MERRILL IN DAVOS

BILL GATES, chairman of Microsoft, gave a warning yesterday that the UK and Europe are failing to keep pace with the software revolution and risk falling behind the nations of South-East Asia.

The result would be a technology deficit for future generations, he said.

Speaking at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Mr Gates and Andrew Grove, chief executive of Intel, urged European governments and venture capital companies to do more to encourage the growth and development of software companies.

Mr Gates said: "I do not understand why there is not more software activity coming out of Europe." Other areas of the world were catching up in terms of software development, he added.

He believes that the biggest software developments are not going to be in either America or Europe. "India is likely to be the next software superpower," Mr Gates said. While at Davos he met H D Deve Gowda, Prime Minister of India, and is shortly to travel to India to discuss the possibility of joint initiatives in the country, including an educational event in Bombay.

Dr Grove advised European and government leaders to take advantage of their existing infrastructure to make substantial investments in information technology as a competitive tool.

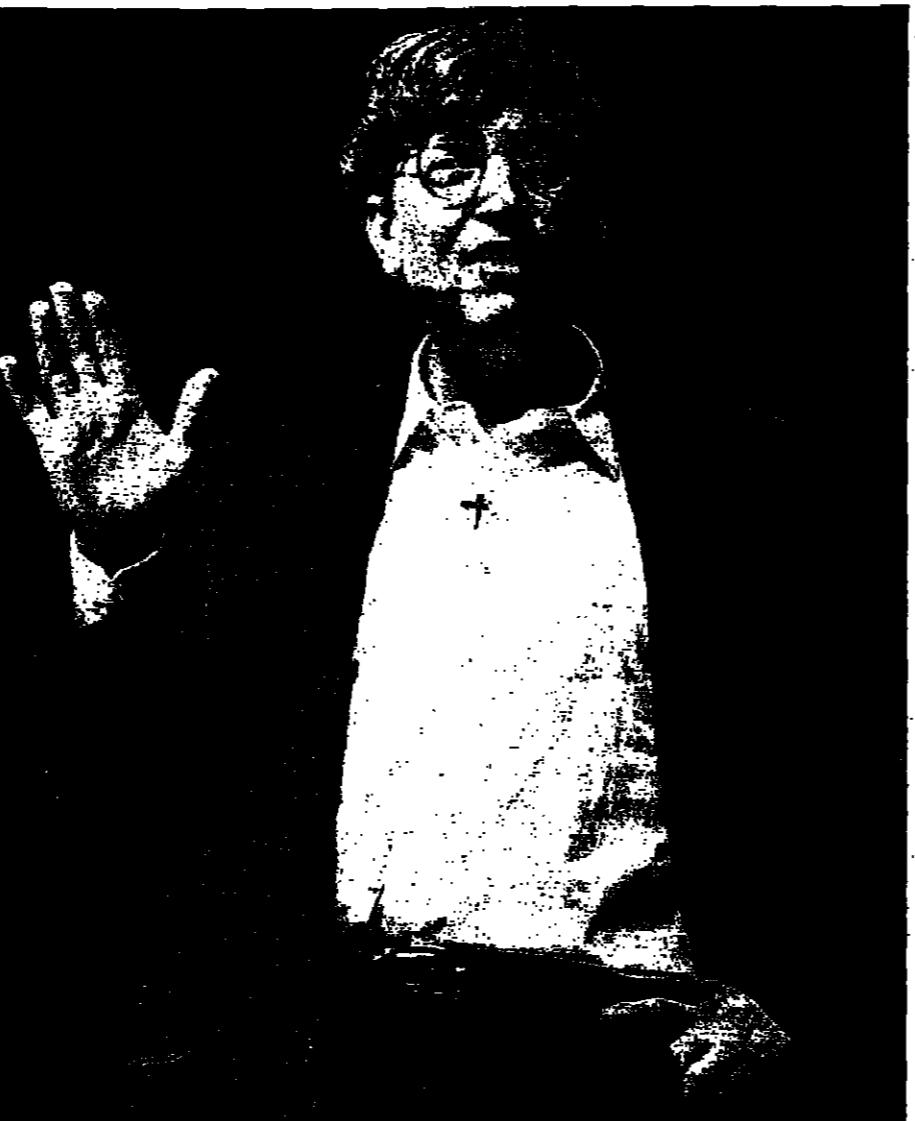
Dr Grove also said that

unless action was taken Europe would be left behind. "The consequences of not adopting and encouraging the use of PC-based technology as a fundamental part of business and education could leave future generations of Europeans with a technology deficit."

He was also critical of the fact that European venture capital companies were reluctant to put money into technology firms. "Intel, Netscape, Yahoo and Microsoft were all started with the help of venture capital. In Europe banks tend to be the source of finance. Banks are a lot more risk-averse. And technology is either going to be very big or you lose your money. Governments should play a role in this process," he said.

In a review of the markets in Asia, Mr Gates said India would emerge as a superpower, while Singapore, thanks to its modern infrastructure and information-driven economy, was on target to achieving the highest per capita PC penetration rate in the world. Microsoft is conducting an Internet pioneering project called Sidewalk in the city.

Microsoft is also investing in neighbouring Malaysia, where a \$2 billion MultiMedia Super Corridor is being built at a site about 65 kilometres south of Kuala Lumpur, the capital. About 20 companies have confirmed their intention of establishing operations in the high-technology zone.



Bill Gates, who believes that India will become the next software superpower

ScotAm ignores Abbey appeal to stop mailshot

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

SCOTTISH AMICABLE is resolutely pushing ahead with plans to send out demutualisation documents and voting forms within days despite a formal appeal from Abbey National yesterday to stop the mailshot.

Abbey's eleventh-hour attempt to halt the demutualisation process came in the form of a three-page letter sent by express courier and fax to the London headquarters of SBC Warburg, the merchant bank currently advising ScotAmicable.

Distribution of the disputed circular to Scottish Amicable policyholders is likely to begin on Thursday. It will make passing reference to the Abbey's bid of between £1 billion to £1.5 billion for the mutual life insurer, but will recommend that policyholders vote for Scottish Amicable's own two-stage flotation.

Abbey's letter sent yesterday was addressed to Jack Birney, managing director of SBC Warburg from John Nelson, vice-chairman of Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank advising Abbey.

In it, Mr Nelson says: "We are formally requesting you to

defer sending any proposals to policyholders with the Scottish Amicable's board's recommendations until a thorough analysis of Abbey National's offer (and any others which may be forthcoming) has been undertaken. There is no doubt that the offer from Abbey National is substantially more attractive to policyholders."

The letter requests Mr Birney to contact Mr Nelson by telephone to discuss the matter further and reiterates that Abbey has made a formal offer. Abbey, whose chief executive is Peter Birch, pledges to pay the embedded value of the company plus goodwill of at least £400 million to policyholders from its own reserves. A Scottish Amicable adviser said: "Abbey still seems to think that it has made a bid for us, but no formal offers have materialised."

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□ ScotAm policyholders could regret the confusion □ German tele-alliance in trouble □ AIM media group's profits shock

□ THERE will shortly be another 44 million pieces of waste paper competing with all the other junk mail in the post. They will be bound up into the 30-page document being sent this week to 1.1 million people from Scottish Amicable, whose two-tier flotation has been kicked into touch by the Abbey National.

The state of affairs at ScotAm is so peculiar, and so complex, that one hesitates to make firm predictions. There seems little chance that ScotAm will be re-created in three to five years as a stand-alone business quoted on the stock market. There is a slight danger, however, that it might get there by default because its owners, the policyholders, are so baffled that they fail to take the action needed to safeguard their interests.

The dozen grey-suited accountants running ScotAm, emerging blinking from the shadows of the Scottish mutual industry where any number of similarly named concerns have slept undisturbed for decades, were immediately required to perform some difficult public contortions once the Abbey pitched up.

The top 12 men had to put in £1.5 million of their own money between them. Their profit, over the three to five years before an eventual ScotAm float, was to have been based on the rate of growth of ScotAm's new in-

surance vehicle: 25 per cent, and their stakes will be worth £3.75 million in all, a profit to split between them of £2.25 million.

Relatively modest by comparison with other boardroom incentive packages.

The irony is that, in selling the scheme to policyholders, that 25 per cent figure was suggested as about the best return possible. Now it is promised as a minimum because the success of the new vehicle also translates into policyholders' eventual returns. So these must be emphasised if the Abbey is to be resisted.

Except that in the real world the Abbey has merely started a bidding war that will end when someone puts the highest value on the table, payable right now. Bidders must make their intentions clear by the special meeting on March 6 at which policyholders will decide on the management's plan.

When a similar situation emerged at the National & Provincial the management simply slapped gagging notices on all bidders and required them to submit offers behind closed doors within a month. But the

N&P, which was bought by the Abbey, was prepared to countenance such a sale, and it seems ScotAm is not.

The danger is that the March 6 poll requires a 75 per cent majority, but only of those actually voting. Policyholders keen on the two-tier plan will clearly say yes.

But if enough of those less keen or wanting to accept a higher offer but unsure of how to do so, abstain, the former's votes could be enough to win the day. Even if they form a minority, and if the actions they are approving are against the best interests of the majority.

C&W disconnects the phone line

□ WHAT is Dick Brown up to? The chief executive of Cable and Wireless started his job with a bang last autumn when he poached RVE, a German industrial group, away from the rival British Telecom partnership in Germany. Only four months later we learn that Mr Brown is ready to pull C&W out of the

main reasons behind the merger's failure.

Now the guessing starts. It is hard to imagine that Mr Brown thinks the German market, Europe's biggest, is no longer worth the effort. Perhaps he wants to attack it from another angle. One possibility is joining Global One, the alliance formed by Deutsche Telekom, France Telecom and Sprint, America's third largest long-distance phone company.

But C&W, for all its far-flung operations, is a minnow in comparison to Global One or its partners. C&W could offer Global One access to the Greater London market through Cable and Wireless Communications, the four-way merger of Mercury, and the Nynex, Bell CableMedia and Videotron cable companies.

That venture, however, is unproven, widely regarded as a marriage of weakness, and Global One could just as easily gain access to London's corporate market through growing rivals such as Colt and MFS.

Mr Brown will have to motor to make C&W a strong player in Europe, and the next few months could make or break the com-

pany. If he fails, he will face increasing institutional pressure to dismantle the group. Or was that the plan all along?

Running round in fruitless Circle

□ THE only bit of the film *El Cid* that anyone can remember is when they tie his body to his horse and send it out to fight the final battle with the Moors.

When Circle Communications came to the Alternative Investment Market in June, much was made of its ownership of the rights to *El Cid*, for some strange reason. Yesterday's news prompts one to wonder if the company rode on to the market in a similar state.

This one wins the Aerospace Hamble Silver Platter (AIM Class) for the swiftest descent from placing prospectus to profit warning. Circle came out of a media company called MVI, whose only other conspicuous product was Talk Radio.

Both were run by a couple of clever entrepreneurs, Peter Clark and Christopher Turner, who

had an impressive track record and the gift of the gab.

What they do not seem to have is a business making profits that could be forecast to any reliable degree. Profits this year will be not less than the amount already reported for the first half — which means, to put it more bluntly, the company may not have made a red cent in the six months since it was floated. One of the few brokers to follow the company was rather hoping for £1.5 million this year. More worryingly, Mr Turner is off soon, we know not where or why.

Tempting to shrug one's shoulders — just another duff AIM stock, these media companies you know, *caveat emptor*. Except that everyone tells us we should regard AIM as a serious market.

Sale at Dixons

□ ONE approaches the affairs of Dixons, and its volatile chairman, Sir Stanley Kalms, with trepidation. When the subject last came up, after he complained about an analysts' sell circular, Pennington broached the subject thus: ... one braces oneself for the inevitable phone call this morning. Strangely, the phone call never arrived. Now we know why. Sir Stanley, who sold a third of his personal stake last week, was busy taking the analysts' advice.

ROBIN MAYES

Sainsbury suffers setback with low Ladbroke refund

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

I SAINSBURY, the embattled supermarket group, discovered yesterday that it will receive far less than expected from Ladbroke in the settlement of their dispute over Texas Homecare.

An independent arbitrator has decided that Ladbroke must repay £9.3 million to Sainsbury's. The City had expected it to recover at least £30 million, and perhaps as much as £70 million, from the £200 million it paid to acquire

ment, interest due on its settlement and provision for other related costs.

A spokesman for Sainsbury's denied that the amount was a disappointment. "We're extremely pleased to have reached a conclusion," he said.

But one food retail analyst commented: "It is a very disappointing figure." He pointed out that at the time of the acquisition, Sainsbury's DIY arm was being run by Dino Adriano, who is now chief executive designate of the supermarket business. The reputations of Mr Adriano and David Sainsbury, chairman, have been questioned since they issued a profit warning ten days ago.

Mr Sainsbury was quoted at the weekend as saying "I am in the firing line." But analysts believe it is unlikely he will be forced out unless he fails to deliver a recovery in the 1997-98 financial year. The company is 40 per cent owned by the Sainsbury family.

There has been some concern that when Mr Sainsbury, Mr Adriano and David Bremner, the joint chief executive, met institutional investors before Christmas, they painted a relatively rosy picture. A spokesman said yesterday that there had been no deception and that many of the problems which led to the profit warning had not emerged at that time.

Sainsbury's shares, which have fallen nearly 18 per cent since the profit warning, edged up 1p yesterday to 323½p. Ladbroke shares rose 3½p, to 232½p.



Allan Rich, right, the chairman and chief executive of The Media Business Group, and Stephen Allan, managing director, reported a 42 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits to £58.6 million. The dividend increases 17 per cent to 0.035p

Ladbroke bets on A R Dennis

GORDON DENNIS stands to realise more than £20 million after selling A R Dennis, the family-owned bookmaker, to Ladbroke, the leisure group, for £31 million (Alistair Murray writes).

Mr Dennis is retiring after 40 years with the business, set up by his father in 1938. The other shareholders, including his wife and family and Roy Thake, a director, will receive a total of £11 million.

A R Dennis is based in the South East and has 114 outlets. Ladbroke said it was buying the chain to improve its position in areas where it is lightly represented, although it will divest itself of three shops to meet Office of Fair Trading requirements.

After the deal, Ladbroke will have 1,925 outlets. Ladbroke

said the cost could be adjusted by £1.4 million depending on Dennis's performance in the next 12 months. Ladbroke meanwhile tried to play down the importance of revelations that it had taken a year ago with ITT, now the target of a \$6.4 billion bid by Hilton Hotels Corporation. Filings to the Securities & Exchange Commission show that the two considered a joint venture. The talks were inconclusive and Ladbroke agreed a joint venture with Hilton.

The market yesterday scoffed at suggestions that ITT, owner of Sheraton hotels, could counter-bid for Ladbroke. Analysts were generally positive on benefits for Ladbroke if Hilton's bid wins. *Tempus*, page 30

KBC seeks £20m from flotation

KBC Advanced Technologies, a consultancy serving the oil refining industry, is raising £20 million via a stock market flotation that would value the company at more than £70 million (Fraser Nelson writes).

The move will make paper millionaires of Krikor Krikorian, John Brice and Peter Close, who founded the company 18 years ago and are due to share at least £2 million.

In the year to December 31 pre-tax profits more than doubled to £6.1 million (£2.7 million) on sales of £27.3 million (£17.6 million).

KBC employs 200 staff. About 80 own shares and each is on course for a shareholding worth £130,000 after the flotation. Dealings begin in March.

Dixons drops after baffling shares sale

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SHARES in Dixons fell 7.4 per cent yesterday after the sale on Friday of more than one million shares by Sir Stanley Kalms, the retailer's chairman (See Pennington, this page).

Another factor behind the drop was a decision by analysts at Merrill Lynch to change their recommendation on the stock from "hold" to "reduce". The analysts are due to publish a note on Dixons later this week. They are believed to be particularly concerned that growth is set to stall at the group, with both household electrical goods and personal computer sales likely to slow down.

On Friday, Sir Stanley

raised around £5.7 million by exercising an option over 102,000 shares at 30p and selling them at 520p per share. The options were due to expire on Sunday. Simultaneously one million shares owned by him and his wife were also sold at 520p per share.

The company gave no reason for the decision to sell the one million shares and the move has baffled both analysts and investors. Sir Stanley still owns 2.1 million shares.

The sale is considered particularly strange in the light of Sir Stanley's anger at a "sell" note issued by another broker, Greg Middleton, last month.

The shares fell 38p to 479p.

Circle warns of significant profit shortfall

CIRCLE Communications, the television rights company that floated on the AIM market last year, gave warning yesterday that profits in the 1996 financial year will fall "significantly below" City forecasts (Eric Reguly writes).

The shares, issued at 170p in a placing handled by Hambleton Bank, closed at 120p down 82½p or 41 per cent.

Circle said it expects pre-tax profits for the year to the end of December of "not less" than the £696,000 reported in the interim period. *Peel Hunt*, the broker, had predicted pre-tax profits of £1 million in 1996.

Christopher Turner, finance director, will be leaving the company shortly (see Pennington this page).

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STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Interest rate worries put shares on the defensive

SHARE prices spent a cautious session, with the debate over interest rates about to be revived. Later today, the Federal Open Market Committee meets to discuss whether there is a need to raise prime rates, while tomorrow the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England are due to get together for their monthly economic meeting.

At the meeting in December, Eddie George, the Governor, called for a rise of half-point to meet growing inflationary pressures. His view is likely to have been reinforced by yesterday's Purchasing Managers Index that showed signs of an acceleration in manufacturing activity.

Prices in London opened on a flat note, reflecting Friday's setback for the Dow Jones industrial average. New York opened lower again last night, scuttling any remaining hopes of a rally. The FTSE 100 index closed 18.0 down at 4,257.8 in subdued turnover of 730 million shares.

Nine-month results from BAA Group, the independent airport operator, were in line with expectations and the price slipped 6.2p to 525.2p. Brokers are looking for £425 million for the full year.

Dixons, the high street electrical retailer, tumbled 38p to 470p on news that Sir Stanley Kalms, chairman, sold 1.1 million shares at 520p late on Friday. The disposal, raised £5.7 million, the broker immediately reduced its holding from "hold" to "reduce".

In contrast, Honeysuckle rose 6p to 324p as Jeremy Hamer, chairman, picked up 25,000 shares at 30p, compared with 39.2p the price reached last year.

Fleets rose a further 16p to 715p, reflecting on last week's decision by Granada, up 20p at 917p. BSkyB, 10p dearer at 605p, and Carlton Communications, 16p higher at 575p, to link and bid for the first licence to broadcast digital terrestrial television. But the other terrestrial channels and cable companies were hit by the prospect of increased competition. Among cable companies General Cable fell 8p to 168p, NYNEX 2p to 97p and Telewest 7p at 110p, while broadcasters saw HTV lose 30p at 327.2p, Scottish Television 81p to 546p, Yorkshire-Tyne Tees 80p to 111.02p and Ulster 14p to 161p.



Shantari Grainger with Michael Balfour, left, and Shaun Phillips, executive director, at Fitness First's Southend club

Tomkins, the industrial conglomerate, rose 5p to 285.2p as NatWest Securities, the broker, joined rival Nomura by turning bullish of the shares. It has told clients to "add" to their holding after increasing its pre-tax profit forecast for the year to April 1998 by £10 million to £480 million.

Unilever retreated 16.2p to 131.79p as a whisper circulated that Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, had cut its profit forecast for 1996 from £2.56 billion to £2.55 billion. It has also reduced its estimate for the current year from £2.77 billion to £2.71 billion. Even so, Lehman is still believed to be at the top end of forecasts.

Trace Computers, the computer software group, rose 10p to 57.2p as rival MMT Computing picked up a disclosed stake. It has bought 460,000 shares, or 3.27 per cent, leading to speculation that it may use the holding as a springboard to a full bid. MMT slipped 1.2p to 85.5p.

A profits warning left Circle Communications, the Alm-listed television rights com-

pany, nursing a fall of 82.4p to 120p. The group, which came to market at 170p in May last year, says profits for the year will be significantly below City forecasts. The company blamed lower than expected profits from Carnival, its biggest earner, and squeezed margins at Pavilion. Circle has forecast a final outcome of

not less than £696,000.

Peel Hunt, the broker, has been looking for £1.5 million against £1.1 million last time.

The expansion programme continues at Air London International, the aircraft charter broker, with the group opening a new office in Germany, its second in Europe. The shares climbed 12p to 209.2p.

Biocompatibles Interna-

tionally continues to go from strength to strength with a leap of 75p at 112.30 after last week's "buy" recommendation from Merrill Lynch, the broker. It has set a target price for the shares of 110p.

TLG, the former Thorn Lighting Group before it was demerged, rose 13p to 118.2p, reflecting the 4.1 per cent stake taken by Wassall.

Clubhouse, one of three publicly quoted golf course operators, rose 5p to 92.2p after hitting the acquisition trail. It has paid £2.3 million for Castle Royal Golf and Country Club in Berkshire. It will pay £800,000 in cash, with a placing of shares raising the balance of £1.5 million. Planning permission has already been granted for a major health and fitness centre.

Further consideration of last week's 235 per cent profits hike by Fitness First, where Michael Balfour is managing director, lifted the shares 12p to 150p. The price of the fitness centre operator has risen 30p in the past few days.

Han Pin, the Alm-listed specialist recruitment agency, stood out with a 4p rise to 63.2p as the group announced details of a boardroom reshuffle. Steven Raven joins as a non-executive director, while Hannah Brown, who heads its Kendall Tarrant division, has been promoted to the board. Teather & Greenwood, the company's new broker, has reviewed the company and naturally rates the shares a "buy".

■ **GILT-EDGED:** Among long-term prices clinged 1.4% as the market extended recent gains to outperform German bunds. It was a positive performance, inspired partly by a better than expected outcome from the US National Association of Purchasing Managers, while signs of a pick-up in industrial output were recorded in this country by the Purchasing Managers' Index.

The March long gilt rose 1.4% to 111.22% as the total number of futures contracts reached a healthy 72,000.

In longs, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2105 put on 1.4% to 110.41%, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was 1.4% firmer at 110.31%.

■ **NEW YORK:** US shares lacked direction and with investors wary, the Dow Jones industrial average was 8.08 points lower at 8,805.01 by midday.

Source: Datamini

Dixons Group share price

FTSE all-share index (rebased)

Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb

Source: Datamini

Dixons Group share price

FTSE all-share index (rebased)

Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb

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FTSE all-share index (rebased)

Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb

Source: Dat

THE
TIMES
CITY
DIARY

SFO makes
legal history

A PIECE of legal history was made yesterday at the Old Bailey — by the Serious Fraud Office, no less.

In the course of its long-running fraud trial against Abbas Gokal, chairman of Gulf Group, a live TV link-up was used for the first time. A witness was linked from a conference studio in Geneva direct to a large screen in the Old Bailey. Meanwhile, Gokal, facing allegations of fraud and false accounting — one charge mentions \$1.2 billion, the largest single sum ever used in an indictment against an individual — will be looking for the prosecution to wrap up the case for him today.

Clarke honour

IN THE cut and thrust of this seemingly interminable pre-election campaign, it's good to know that Ken Clarke has the backing of at least one august body. He was yesterday made an honorary fellow of no lesser body than the Institute of Certified Book-Keepers.

Wait for a break

MORE misery for Stephen Davidson. The acting chief executive of TeleWest, the largest cable TV company, was due to learn in November whether he was to be confirmed as full-time boss. Then it was January. Now there has been yet another delay while the company's US shareholders consider two other candidates — one from Pepsi International, the other a former Procter & Gamble man. Brace yourself for a flurry of promotions ... supermarket cable coupons coming your way.

Ladbroke

"Get your £9.3 million ready — here comes David Sainsbury"

Horlick's meal

THE £1 million woman was out partying with Solomon Brothers on Friday night. Nicola Horlick was a guest of Peter Middleton, chief executive, at a dinner to welcome new managing directors to the investment bank. Held at The Wallace Collection in Manchester Square, for about 150 people, Superwoman accompanied her husband Timothy, a managing director at Solomon's, who is said to have kept his head well down at work during the whole sorry affair. Word has it that her fellow guests kept very quiet — not one made a reference to babysitters.

FRED WATT was in the spotlight yesterday. The aptly named finance director at Wassall, the small but acquisitive conglomerate, shed an interesting light on his company's purchase of 7.5 million shares in the Thorn Lighting Group.

Club's stand

ASTON VILLA is at last calling the shots. Potential investors who phone the football club switchboard will be greeted by a weary-sounding answer message. "If your query concerns a possible share flotation of the club, the directors have not taken any decision in relation to this matter. If and when they did, a share prospectus would be issued, and would be available through the normal sources, which would be widely publicised."

MORAG PRESTON

Colin Hook's abrupt departure from his job as managing director of Ivory & Sime yesterday sent a shockwave through the Scottish financial community. He is leaving the Edinburgh fund manager barely two weeks after he was given the public backing of Sir David Kinloch in an interview in the *Financial Times*. Sir David, who has taken over as the firm's executive chairman, is deputy chief executive of Caledonia Investments, the quoted Cayzer family company which is Ivory's biggest shareholder.

The upheaval — the latest in a long line of senior management departures to afflict Ivory over the past 20 years — raised doubts not only about Ivory's own future but about the survival of a strong and independent financial community in Scotland.

For the "Scottish mafia" is under siege. Ivory's problems come only a year after a management debacle at Dunedin led it to be swallowed up by the rival Edinburgh Fund Managers. Scottish Amicable, the re-

gion's third-largest life insurer, has blindly stumbled into an unwanted auction that looks likely to see it sold to the highest bidder.

Meanwhile, life offices like Scottish Life and Scottish Provident, and fund managers like Martin Currie, Stewart Ivory and Aberdeen Trust increasingly look too small to compete with the industry leviathans.

The head of one Edinburgh fund manager said: "Personally I am very sad for Ivory & Sime, as an Edinburgh company. This is about where we were last year with Dunedin. I find it very embarrassing. I don't think it's good for Scotland. We're not covering our

selves with glory at the moment." In Glasgow, Alastair Haddow, chief investment officer of Murray Johnstone (itself now US owned), said: "My concern is that Scotland retains sufficient fund management operations to make us attractive to companies and brokers to come and visit. The worry is erosion, that we become marginalised."

Mr Hook's two-year tenure at Ivory has seen an improvement in its previously mediocre investment record, helped by his recruitment of John Stubbs from Postel (now Hermes), manager of the BT and Post Office pension funds. He scored a big success by helping Ivory to hang on to British Asset, its flagship investment trust, he made a couple of good acquisitions and increased profits.

Unfortunately, this progress did not make it any easier for his fund managers to enjoy working for him. A former Army officer who previously headed a Lloyd's action group, Mr Hook has been described as "a spare, ascetic ram-rod figure, distant and rather unapproachable". One former employee describes an environment of secrecy rather than an environment of openness and discussion.

After a trickle of senior departures, including that of Gordon Neilly, the business

development director, the crux came last month with the loss of Ivory's head of UK equities and its entire small companies team. Mr Hook bunkered down one last time, refusing to speak to the riled Scottish press for a week.

Sir David has spent the past fortnight talking to the firm's staff and clients, eventually concluding that Mr Hook's personality was too great a problem to overcome — regardless of his public assurances.

Sir David wants to make Ivory more "user friendly", and has reasserted Caledonia's commitment to the firm. Most rival managers accept this is not a rerun of Dunedin, and that Caledonia has yet to put up the "for sale" sign. But one insider observed: "Do Caledonia really want to lose their deputy chief executive to one of their investee companies? They will tell you no (they do not want to sell), but you can read between the lines."

PAUL DURMAN

Standing by for a quick trip on the election gravy train

Clare Stewart
on the services
that prosper
when Britain
goes to the polls

John Major may not have named the day but Jeff Moore is ready. He has nearly 30 kilometres of orange ribbon standing by together with some 20,000 pins and a few quarts of glue.

When the election date is set, Mr Moore, who runs Showtime Rosettes in Suffolk, will spring into action. He and his staff of two have a bulk order from the Liberal Democrats that means 20,000 rosettes to be stitched, frilled and assembled for dispatch around the country.

On top of which he has orders from a number of other parliamentary hopefuls who are keen to equip themselves with some rather flashier rosettes (three tiers and more flounces) before they go out to press the flesh and kiss babies.

Showtime is one of a diverse range of businesses on which the forthcoming election will make an impact, not least because, in total, the parties are set to spend record amounts on their 1997 campaign. Mr Moore expects his turnover this year to be ten times higher.

Not only will the current campaign be one of the longest — skirmishes began last summer with the Conservatives' "New Labour, New Danger" posters — but there is a new big spender in the shape of the Referendum Party, bankrolled by Sir James Goldsmith, who has provided a £20 million advertising budget.

The business of a UK general election may be small beer alongside the US but, nonetheless, it provides sizeable orders for a range of companies.

Given the restriction on spending at local party level, most of the significant buying is at national level. Once an election is called, each constituency's candidates have to work within an equal budget defined by the size of the local electorate. Typically this may be only about £7,000 to £8,000, the largest proportion of which will be for printing leaflets, but also has to cover administration costs, whether telephone calls or cups of tea.

In 1992 the Tories spent about £10 million on publicity alone. Labour's entire election budget was just under £11 million, and that of the Liberal Democrats £2 million. What is certain is that the largest proportion of the main parties' multimillion-pound campaigns is spent on high-profile poster and press advertising.

Last year, according to Register Mead, the media research group, the Referendum Party spent nearly £3.5 million on press and poster advertising between January and November, outgunning the Conservatives' spend of £2.2 million and Labour's £1.5 million.

On an advertising spend of at least £10 million for the Conservatives, M&C Saatchi



Coming up rosettes: Maureen and Jeff Moore preparing for the Lib Dems campaign

can look forward to a £1 million fee. Advertising agencies usually earn between 10 and 12 per cent of the budget, which means that Bank Higgins O'Shea, the agency handling the Referendum Party, is also set to net a substantial sum.

The high-profile work will also put the creative agency in the spotlight. The former Saatchi and Saatchi agency did its reputation on work for the Conservative Party. says Stefano Hatfield, editor of *Campaign*, the advertising industry magazine. "But there used to be no prestige attached to handling old Labour. Now that it looks as if Labour might win that has changed."

Much attention to date has focused on the Conservative and Labour poster campaigns.

The large poster companies, owners of key billboard sites,

are well aware that they hold an important medium for the political message.

It is perceived that outdoor advertising allows communications in its purest form, unadulterated by other messages," says Michael Higgins, managing director of More O'Ferrall, the poster company.

Strong demand, particularly in the final stages of an election campaign, has the effect of hardening the rates that poster companies can charge.

But, says Francis Goodwin, managing director of Maiden Group, the importance of an election should not be overplayed. "It does have a positive impact but it is not a gold rush.

We have a fixed supply of sites so once they are sold, they are sold, which means demand from political parties may be

displacing other advertisers."

In addition, elections spell uncertainty, which may affect spending plans by other advertisers. But, says Mr Goodwin, the increasing use of poster sites by the parties does bring other election benefits.

"As a soundbite medium, poster campaigns generate a lot of press comment. That has a positive spin-off for us in the longer term."

Elections also provide some useful extra business for smaller poster companies like Freight Media, which runs a fleet of mobile poster lorries.

Nicholas Lee, the managing director, says that whether it is taking a new poster campaign direct to party headquarters for a photo-call or to key constituencies, political groups use mobile sites to add a tactical spin to campaigns.

Alison Holmes, election

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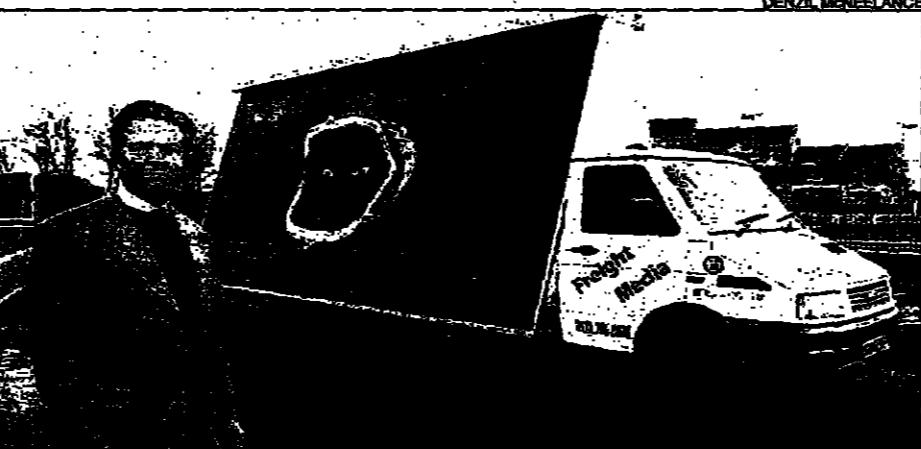
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Alison Holmes, election



Mobile media: Nicholas Lee, whose lorry fleet will spread the political message

Impact of £17bn building society windfalls dismissed too lightly — unless Treasury backs a windfall tax?

From Mr Maurice Fitzpatrick Sir, You comment (Pennington, January 15) on the limits to the extent of the consumer boom anticipated in the next year or so. In particular, you suggest that forthcoming building society windfalls will not have a major impact on consumer spending. In support of this thesis, you refer to a survey by Nikko Europe which found that two thirds of the windfalls to come are likely to be saved. I wonder if you are correct to dismiss the impact of building society windfalls so lightly.

The value of the windfalls from the Halifax, Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester flotations this summer is estimated at £17 billion (Analysis, same issue).

If a third of this were spent, this would add around £6 billion to consumer spending. Suppose that £6 billion were spent over (say) a two-year period. This would be equivalent to the injection, into consumer spending, of a cut of 1.5p in the basic rate of income tax for the two-year period concerned.

Coming on top of other

ACCA is filling a gap with new qualification for accountancy profession

From the President of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Sir, You published two reactions to ACCA's launch of a new, technician-level, qualification for the accountancy profession.

Mr Francis Bergin (Business Letters, January 3) refers to ACCA "setting up yet another institute". In fact, ACCA is simply extending its range of examination-based qualifications. ACCA will not be establishing a new membership body, nor do we support the proliferation of accountancy bodies, whether chartered or non-chartered.

Robert Bruce suggests ("The

battlefield shifts to education", January 9) that ACCA's move has caused a squabble among the six CCAB bodies. In fact, the Association of Accounting Technicians, which currently provides a technician-level accountancy qualification in the UK, is not a member of CCAB and has little to do with relations between the professional bodies which comprise CCAB's membership.

AAAT chose to move away from the examinations-based system that was bequeathed to it by ACCA, towards a system of national vocational qualifications based on a com-

parison of devolved and central assessments. In doing so, it left a gap in the market, especially overseas, in the interests of revenue. In Singapore (the example cited), ACCA has under 10,000 (not 15,000) students, of whom less than 2,000 are taking the final-level examinations in any given year. About a quarter of these students are successful each year, a pass rate which is far higher than AAAT's in Singapore. Yours faithfully, P.A. LANGARD, The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 29 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.

UK anger over German coal subsidies

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

BRITAIN has become embroiled in a fresh dispute with Europe over industrial aid after UK coal producers said that their way to the German market had been blocked.

Richard Page, the Under Secretary of State responsible for small business, industry and energy, said yesterday that the Government had lobbied the European Commission over German subsidies to its coal industry.

They mean that Germany can significantly undercut UK prices. Several UK companies have said that they have failed to win business from German power stations.

Germany has also been hit with a further complaint from the UK to the European Commission over exports of anthracite to Britain. Anthracite, which is used largely for domestic fuel, has been sold in Britain at below production costs, UK coalminers claim.

Mr Page said UK coal producers could easily beat the production costs of other EU producers, but found this competitive advantage nullified by subsidies. "We hope that the German Government and the Commission will address any such unintended distortion of competition."

British coal producers, which also face difficulties because of cheap gas supplies and the strong pound, have tried to win concessions from the Government, but Mr Page has said such appeals are unrealistic.

Germany has faced challenges to its coal subsidies before. Several years ago, Coal Products, a UK maker of smokeless fuel, mounted legal action that resulted in an out-of-court settlement.

The Department of Trade and Industry has set up a team to scrutinise the effects of subsidies in European coal markets.



Hamish Bryce, TLG executive chairman, left, and Malcolm Robertson, financial director, saw their shares light up

Alcatel wins support for Thomson CSF bid

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

ALCATEL ALSTHOM has won key backing from Aérospatiale and Dassault in its struggle with Lagadère which owns Marca Defence, could join forces with GEC, although the British company's involvement is likely to awaken hostility within the French defence establishment.

A consortium formed by Alcatel, Aérospatiale and Dassault, themselves undergoing a merger, The Government rejected the telecommunications group's first offer for Thomson before the original privatisation procedure collapsed in December. Alcatel believes that the new defence and aerospace concern's support could be decisive.

However, Lagadère remains a strong contender even though France's privatisation commission ignored the Government's advice and turned down the

firm's joint bid with South Korea's Daewoo at the end of last year. Reports in France suggest Lagadère, which owns Marca Defence, could join forces with GEC, although the British company's involvement is likely to awaken hostility within the French defence establishment.

Alcatel would provide most of the cash to buy the State's 58 per cent stake in Thomson; Aérospatiale would transfer in its satellite and missiles business, and Dassault its electronics activities.

These moves would hasten President Chirac's ambition to restructure the French defence

barrassed by the failure of its first attempt to sell Thomson.

After accusations that his plans for a private placement into Thomson CSF became the principal shareholder in what would be the world's third-largest such group.

However, questions still remain over the future of Thomson Multimedia. Thomson's troubled consumer electronics arm. With Fr14 billion debts, the company excited little interest, apart from that shown by Daewoo, under the original privatisation, and it is unclear whether Alcatel would want to keep control of Thomson Multimedia or sell it on if the joint offer bid was successful.

Analysts say the battle between Lagadère and Alcatel will be determined largely by the privatisation procedure chosen by a government that has already been severely embezzled.

The Department of Trade and Industry has set up a team to scrutinise the effects of subsidies in European coal markets.

Wassall's 4.1% stake sparks talk of TLG bid

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

WASSALL, the acquisitive mini-conglomerate, has bought a 4.1 per cent stake in TLG, the former Thorn Lighting Group.

News of the purchase of 7.5 million shares, carried out over several weeks at a cost of more than £75 million, sparked speculation that a takeover of TLG was in the cards. It sent TLG's shares 13.5p higher to 118p.

Fred Watt, finance director of Wassall, said the stake has been bought as an investment. "We have money to invest in the UK and this looked like an interesting investment opportunity," he said. He declined to rule out the possibility of making a bid for TLG, however.

City analysts doubted that an intention to launch a full bid was behind Wassall's purchase. One said the move could be designed to attract an outside predator, or to force management to enhance shareholder value.

TLG issued a profit warning last September, sending its shares down from around 170p to below the 115p price at which the company floated in November 1995. In December it delivered interim pre-tax profits 27 per cent down at £8.3 million. The company said it had been hit by a simultaneous downturn in all its main markets.

Since then, several directors, including Hamish Bryce, the executive chairman, have bought shares. Mr Bryce said yesterday: "This is a strong, focused company with a clear strategy."

Shares in Wassall rose 7.5p to 126p. The company has made several major acquisitions over the past five years.

Chris Miller, chief executive, said last September that the company was "in an excellent position to finance acquisition and investment opportunities".

Tempus, page 30

Sema pays £27m for BR Business System

SEMA is paying £27 million for BR Business System (BRBS), giving the Anglo-French computer services group its fourth transport computer infrastructure business in Europe. The deal, which Sema says will enhance its earnings, gives the group a 65 per cent share of the £135 million market in providing railway operators with computer systems to manage timetables, ticket issuing and asset management.

Sema will inherit all 1,100 of BRBS's workers, taking its UK staff to 5,100. The group said that it would use the company to win contracts in the bus and air industries, after the success of similar contracts in France, Spain and The Netherlands. BRBS has assets of £13.2 million, and turned over £87 million in the year to March 31. Sema was named as preferred bidder for BRBS last week, beating Andersen Consulting, EDS and Cap Gemini. The group has settled the deal in cash and says the acquisition will enhance earnings in the first year. Sema shares closed 10p up at £10.925, yesterday.

Midland acquisition

MIDLAND Independent Newspapers, the regional newspaper company that owns the *Birmingham Post* and *Coventry Evening Telegraph*, yesterday bought the *Hinckley Times*, a weekly newspaper in Leicestershire that has been published since 1899. The price was not disclosed, but it was thought to be small. The newspaper has net assets of only £1.7 million and a circulation of about 16,500. Midland is also buying John Baxter and Sons (Hinckley) Ltd, an associated general printing and stationery business.

Rolls-Royce order

ROLLS-ROYCE, the aerospace group, has received an order from South African Airways for engines to power an additional two Boeing 747-400 jumbo jets for the airline in a deal worth about £50 million. The new aircraft, due to be delivered in May and October 1998, have been ordered to meet increased passenger traffic between South Africa and the US. The RB211 family has accumulated almost 74 million service hours and airlines around the world currently operate 155 RB211-524 powered jumbo jets on a range of long-haul routes.

Litho buys Muromail

LITHO SUPPLIES, the supplier of printing and graphic arts products, is paying £2.2 million for Muromail, which supplies binding systems, laminating equipment and signmaking products. Muromail, based at Weston-super-Mare, earned pre-tax profits of £333,153 in the year to September 30, on sales of £4.6 million. Net assets were £690,625 at September 30. The purchase price is payable over two years, with £1.6 million to be paid on completion and £600,000 12 months later.

ISA expands in France

ISA INTERNATIONAL, the European distributor of branded computer consumable products, has made two acquisitions to expand in France. It is acquiring ASDV SA, a distributor of computer products based near Paris, for £1.23 million. In its last financial year ASDV earned pre-tax profits of £189,700 on turnover of £16 million. ISA has also acquired Média Systèmes, based in Bordeaux, which earned pre-tax profits of £298,800 on sales of £7.3 million in the last financial year.

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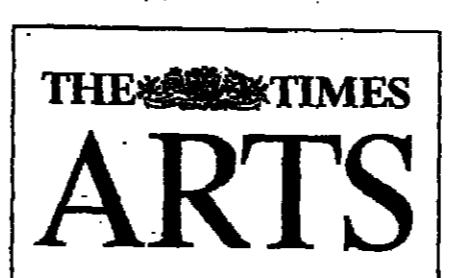
ES-UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE



■ VISUAL ART 1
In the pink:
the National
Gallery mounts
a rewarding show
of the young
Gainsborough



■ VISUAL ART 2
Animal magic:
the feline
portraits of
Elsie Henderson
go on display
in London



THE
TIMES
ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3
... while Brian
Yale, at the age
of 60, makes his
West End debut
with a collection
of cool landscapes



■ VISUAL ART 4
... and the
influence of
Maltese geology
can be seen in
Paul Stevenson's
latest paintings

Seeking moral asylum

In the early decades of this century a young woman who let her family down by becoming pregnant without the preliminary of wedlock could be locked away in a lunatic asylum. A sympathetic doctor — sympathetic that is, to the family's desire to sweep anything untoward under the nearest carpet — would declare the errant female a "moral imbecile" and away she went. Some remained incarcerated for 50 years, and the fate of such women is the inspiration for this play by Charlotte Jones, a co-founder of the Sweet Desserts Theatre.

The company takes its name from the intriguing Lucy Ellmann novel it adapted and staged a few years back. Jones was involved in that production, as co-writer and performer.

THEATRE

Airswimming BAC, SW11

er, and is one of the two players in this latest work. I held high hopes for the production but was disappointed.

The set designed by Kirsty Twaddle is a brilliant white and contains an empty bath, a short flight of steps and a door painted with the view of a springtime wood. These three items are for cleaning, for polishing, and for never being able to open, because the room is in St Dymphna's Hospital for the Criminally Insane.

One day in 1924 Persephone (Rosie Cavaliero) arrives. She believes she is there for a short convalescence and is reluctant to say much to Dora (Jones), who has already been cleaning and polishing for two years. Porph, as she is later called, has had a baby; why Dora has been confined is never revealed but presumably relates to her wish to *disguise* herself as a man and follow her three brothers into the army.

So there they are, and there they stay, and changes of lighting shoot us between the 1920s and the 1970s with occasional pauses in between. We learn nothing of what goes on elsewhere, except that somehow Porph gets to see the films of Doris Day, whose life, voice and happy philosophy come to obsess her.

The obsession also brings about a change of diction, from polite and pure-vowelled to oafish and offish. No reason is given for this, nor why the performances, directed by Anne Mackinnon, should incorporate no signs of ageing. Moreover, nobody in 1924 said "Feel free" or talked of nutters and taking your finger out. Gradually the situation floats away from reality.

What the play is intended to show never becomes clear. Its 80 minutes are a long preliminary to something that never happens.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Mr and Mrs Andrews, one of the highlights of the National Gallery's exhibition: "Gainsborough's fervent response to the Suffolk countryside gives this outstanding canvas its ability to delight"

■ VISUAL ART: Richard Cork on the National Gallery's Gainsborough show

The gentrification of a boy from the country

The freshness and doll-like charm of Gainsborough's early portraits may tempt us to imagine that he was a simple country lad, astonishingly precocious yet unsophisticated. After all, he grew up in sequestered Sudbury, and his youthful view of Comard Wood suggests that he was happiest when painting the Suffolk landscape familiar to him since childhood.

The truth, however, is far removed from such a myth. Without labouring the point, the National Gallery's modest yet appealing exhibition discloses that its contents were in no sense the work of an untutored provincial. Gainsborough's unusual gifts ensured that, at the age of 13, he was sent to London. Although attached at first to a silversmith, he soon became a pupil of the virtuoso French artist Hubert Gravelot, whose Rococo style helped to revolutionise English taste in the 1740s. The teacher's vitality surely stimulated the young Gainsborough, and his debt to French art has been underestimated.

But a confident painting of the bull terrier Bumper, executed when he was only 18, proves that his debt to Dutch art was even greater. The deftly summarised landscape behind the animal is influenced by Jan Wijmants, and the National Gallery clinches the connection by displaying a newly cleaned painting by this skilful Dutch artist from its own collection. Even Gainsborough's drawings, seemingly so effortless in their response to trees, mossy banks, pools and plants, view the English countryside with the eye of foreign artists' eyes. A deft black chalk study of burdock leaves may appear the outcome of a chance

encounter on a rural ramble, but it relies very heavily on similar images by Wijmants.

Even so, too much can be made of influence-spotting. Once all the links with continental prototypes have been established, it is worth stressing that Gainsborough turned them all to individual account. His painting of Bumper announces a love of dogs that runs as a quite personal motif throughout the show. In *Comard Wood* they appear in several places, sleeping near a man binding a bundle of branches, nuzzling a young woman's flank, padding behind a traveller and glimpsed only in hindquarters of a winding path.

Gainsborough could not resist including canine companions in many of his portraits as well. A dog laps water beside the artist himself, as he flanks a crimson waistcoat beside his tilted wife and alarmingly red-cheeked daughter. Similar animals lie beside Mr and Mrs Kirby, or snuff devotedly at John Plamain as he leans with languorous elegance against a tree trunk. The dogs add an engaging note of informality

to portraits already seeking escape from an excess of posed stiffness. Plamain's remarkably relaxed legs derive from a Watteau portrait of Antoine de la Roque, who had been wounded by a cannon-ball at the battle of Malplaquet. The injury led Watteau to paint his friend with one leg projecting rigidly in the air. But Gainsborough changed the pose into a far more insouciant affair, letting Plamain rest his left leg on a grassy hillock while the other dangles down to touch the earth below.

This search for spontaneity, epitomised by the portrait of a young man who raises one hand in an impulsive gesture as he talks to his pretty companion, is matched by Gainsborough's handling of paint. Even in a careful early picture, *Wooded Landscape with Peasant Resting*, the conscientious treatment of foliage is suddenly enlivened by a flash of sunlight on a distant cornfield. The brushstrokes loosen here, to enhance the drama of this transient break in an otherwise overcast sky.

But Gainsborough's mark-making really takes on a sprightliness of

its own when he turns his attention to women's clothes. The pink dress worn by the lady in *Conversation in a Park* is brushed in with breathtaking finery. Captivated by the sheen of light on silk, he discovers a deft way of letting the pigment dance, slide, wriggle and flash on the surface of the material. It is a consummate performance for an artist no more than 21 years old. Gainsborough already had a more instinctive and supple feeling for the expressive possibilities of paint than his future rival, Reynolds, would ever command.

This exhibition reveals a young man intoxicated by his own merciful agility with the brush, nowhere more seductively than in the thin white material fizzing like water spray down the centre of his wife's dress. It seems to have been painted in a rush of excitement, and ends up conveying the very pulse of his feeling for a woman he had recently married in a clandestine ceremony. The illegitimate daughter of the Duke of Beaufort, who gave her an allowance of £200 a year, she is probably the woman tripping

through a glade in Gainsborough's most amorous pencil drawing. Her dress rises up, as if in response to the attentions of her companion, pressing in from the side, and discloses a pair of alluring ankles. Gainsborough is by far the most sensual English artist of this period, and his irrepressible libido gives this show its remarkable vivacity.

Sometimes his apparent ease gives way to awkwardness, and we sense the struggles he must have experienced.

To judge by the impetuous knife-slashes tearing through the canvas in an unfinished *Landscape with Peasants*, Gainsborough abandoned the painting in a rage.

As for the double portrait of Mr and Mrs Carter, it suffers from Gainsborough's inability to find the right proportions for the figures. The genial old man, in elaborate wig and resplendent black-and-gold waistcoat, was clearly larger in build than his stern, blanchéd wife. But she has shrunk to a disconcertingly small size, exposing all too well Gainsborough's habit of work-

ing out compositions with the aid of wooden dolls.

He was far happier when painting the Carters' daughter Frances, seated on a bench with her husband in nearby attendance. The result, *Mr and Mrs Andrews*, is the most winning of all 18th-century English portraits. This time, Gainsborough had no problem with the proportions of the two figures. The teenage wife appears a trifle flushed and penitent as she gazes out from lowered lids. But since she inherited this expression from her sulky-looking Huguenot mother, we need not infer that she was discontented in marriage. The radiance of her sky-blue satin dress, the most exquisite passage of painting to be found in Gainsborough's early work, gives the young woman an airborne quality.

Everything about Mr Andrews exudes squirearchical assurance.

Unsmiling he may be, but the well-cultivated acreage taking up such a substantial part of the picture

substantiates how gratified Mr Andrews must feel when surveying the additional estate he had acquired through marriage.

In the end, though, Gainsborough's fervent response to the Suffolk countryside gives this outstanding canvas its ability to delight.

Equally adept at defining the newly harvested corn-sheaves with close-up precision, and summarising the fugitive play of sunlight on a distant hillside, he asserts here more persuasively than before that landscape painting would play a major role in the rest of his career.

■ *Young Gainsborough runs at the National Gallery (0171-839 3321) until March 31. Sponsored by British Land Company*

structures of the island. The influence of Ben Nicholson is evident, though the work is far from derivative. Stevenson trained as an architect, and it shows in the strong sense of underlying structure, giving substance to these delicate evocations of a world remote yet strangely familiar. *Michael Parkin*, *Gallery 11 Motcomb Street, SW1 (0171-235 8144)*. Daily 10am-6pm, until Friday.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

AROUND THE LONDON GALLERIES

ous parts of the poster, indicating the care with which the final complex image was built up.

Sally Hunter Fine Art, 11

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■ IF YOU are not familiar with the name of Brian Yale that is perfectly understandable, for he has reached the

age of 60 before achieving a solo West End show. This must have more to do with his modest and retiring nature than with the quality of his art. Also, perhaps, with the fact that he is better known as a sculptor than as a painter: his most prominent work is a 120-metre frieze of laser-cut metal at the Prince Regent station in Docklands. His paintings are mostly in a suitably cool, quasi-phonetic

graphic style, haunting in their clarity and directness. But there are also crossover works which incorporate paintings into assemblages of objects. *Travels from Pebble Beaches in a Personal Way*.

Wolseley Fine Arts, Gallery

27 Cork Street, W1 (0171-

734 7595), Mon-Fri 10am-

3pm, Sat 11am-3pm, until

Feb 22.

■ EFFECTS of superimposition

figure prominently in

Paul Stevenson's show *Sacred Stones*, at Michael

Parkin. Here, however, it is

more important as an idea

behind the paintings than as

a part of the painting process

itself. What interests Stevenson is the feeling of history

built into a place or a building, an almost telepathic

awareness that these stones

have lived a life of their own,

which somehow vibrates in

the mind of the visitor. This

latest group of paintings,

shown to mark the artist's

seventieth birthday, is in-

spired by a visit two years ago

to Malta, and the megalitic

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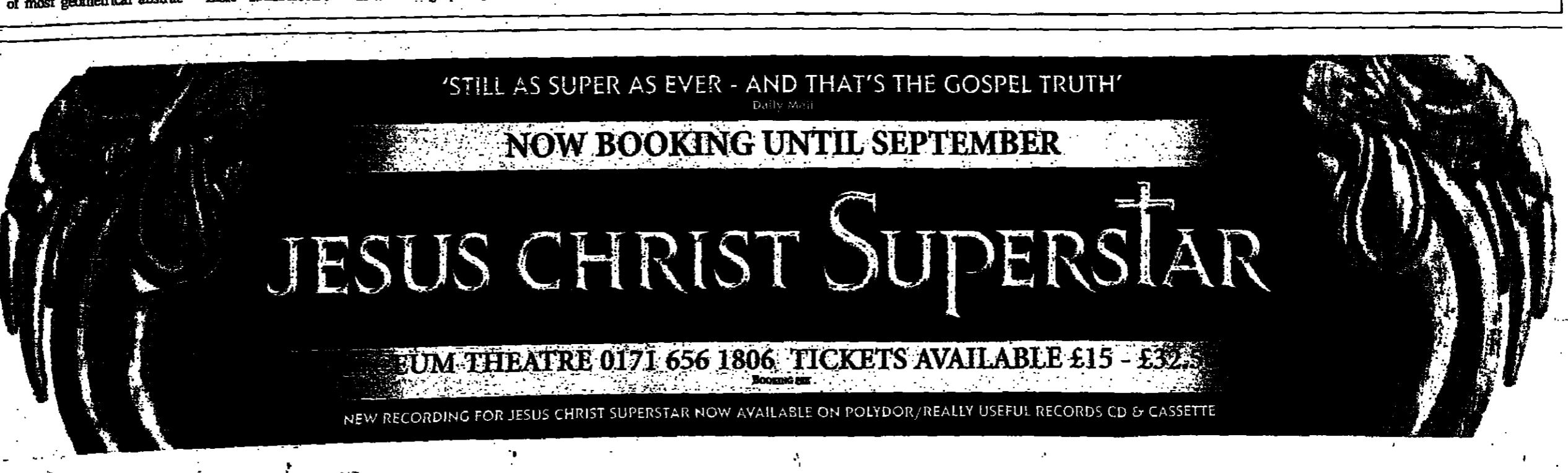
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LAW

- PROSECUTOR POWER 43
- NAME GAMES 43

Nick Catiff asks how convicted paedophiles should be treated when released

Just after new year on the Raploch housing estate in Stirling, a lynch mob of angry mothers surrounded a hostel of released prisoners and forced police to remove Alan Christie, who is 50, for his own safety. In Birmingham, George Taylor, 58, abandoned his flat after his windows were smashed, while in Liverpool Lyndsey Rooney was putting up posters warning people that her father would soon be coming home from jail.

All the men are convicted paedophiles and not surprisingly their potential neighbours do not like the prospect of their moving in next door.

Until now, local authorities have quietly housed released sex offenders in hostels and on housing estates and relied on social services and probation officers to keep an eye on these potentially dangerous additions to the community. Legally speaking, they have served their sentences "paid their debt to society". Most are subject to parole restrictions but like all other former prisoners the law says they should be allowed to rebuild their lives in peace. But, increasingly, people are unwilling to allow sex offenders to blend into society. They are public enemy number one. The nature of their crimes and the high rate at which they offend strikes understandable fear into the heart of any parent.

Last week, in a Commons debate on the Sex Offenders Bill, David Mellor, MP, QC, captured the mood of public fear perfectly. The Bill proposes a compulsory national register of convicted paedophiles to deny them the anonymity they need for access to children in places such as schools and clubs.

Mr Mellor wants to go further: he argues that paedophiles are uniquely dangerous and that the new law should require police to use the register to inform local communities when a dangerous paedophile moves into their area. Now Labour has tabled an amendment calling for a system for "providing information to the public" and the Liberal Democrats have suggested a new clause giving notification powers to chief constables.

The idea comes from recent American legislation known as "Megan's Law" after Megan Kanka, a seven-year-old who was raped and killed in July 1994 by one of three convicted paedophiles who had set up home in her quiet suburban street among young families. The law has overwhelming popular and political support. Tonight's *Inside Story* on BBC1 looks at the American legislation where



Maureen Kanka, whose daughter, Megan, was murdered at seven: "If a paedophile is living on my street, I want to know"

Can sex offenders be left in peace?

the obvious logic and appeal of "community notification" has run foul of a variety of legal and practical objections.

The law itself combines commonsense pragmatism with knee-jerk political opportunism. So great was the outrage at the the appalling and apparently preventable crime against Megan Kanka that "Megan's Law" was passed in New Jersey just 89 days after she died. Megan's mother, Maureen, formed an alliance with politicians and public opinion and by June 1996, two years into the campaign, she was in the White House next to President Clinton as he spoke of "circling the wagons around our children", and signed a federal version of the law.

The thinking behind the law is summed up by Mrs Kanka. "If a paedophile is living on my street, I want to know," she says. "If I had known they were there, I could have warned my daughter, and she would be alive today."

Dr Kay Jackson, a leading therapist dealing with sex offenders in New York, sees

the law as having a disastrous effect on her work with paedophiles and says they will be "estranged from their communities, isolated from friends and family and so pushed back onto their own, clearly inadequate, resources". This is echoed by many released paedophiles. One of them, "John", says: "I've done my time, I'm still doing the therapy but now they won't let me rebuild my life... I'm always looking over my shoulder waiting for the lynch mob."

It is likely also to force many sex offenders — as one put it — to "move away and make a life for myself where no one knows me". This means a life without access to therapy, and without the supervision of those who need to avoid reoffending.

The American Civil Liberties Union and Liberty in the UK argue that community notification violates civil liberties, amounts to double punishment and opens the offender to the possibility of a vigilante attack. But they have a hard task arguing that sex offenders — whom no one can guarantee will not

reoffend — have rights, too, and that what they really need is not tougher punishment but anonymity and privacy.

In the US, courts are now backing away from calls for Megan's Law. Some actions brought by sex offenders have challenged the law as unconstitutional when applied to paedophiles. One of them, "John", says: "I've done my time, I'm still doing the therapy but now they won't let me rebuild my life... I'm always looking over my shoulder waiting for the lynch mob."

If the courts rule against Megan's Law, politicians from the President downwards have vowed to fight for its reinstatement. They argue that "the right to know" is more important than the rights of men who have committed the most appalling of crimes. That sentiment would be echoed by the mothers in Stirling. David Mellor and several British child-welfare organisations. They want to see community notification and, for them, the Sex Offenders Bill is a necessary first step because it will create a register of all convicted paedophiles.

"Dave" speaks for many of them when he says: "It's a feel-good law. It makes everyone feel safer, but the truth is, if I wanted to reoffend, I'd do it. If the people in the area around my home are notified about me all I have to do is drive across town to a street where nobody knows and — boom — I can do what I like."

● The author is the producer of the Inside Story film, *Megan's Law*, to be shown on BBC1 tonight at 10.

Boost for LCJ's office

TWO NEW posts have been created under the Lord Chief Justice. Lord Justice Rose, 59, has been made vice-president of the Court of Appeal criminal division, and Lord Justice Kennedy, 61, vice-president of the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court.

The jobs are, to some extent, formal recognition of the work they already do. Lord Justice Rose, who also chairs the Criminal Justice Consultative Council, acts as adviser to the Lord Chief Justice on criminal matters, and Lord Justice (Paul) Kennedy handles the deployment of High Court judges on circuit. The appointments bolster the LCJ's office.

● LORD TAYLOR of Gosforth, who turned out (with Lord Lane, his predecessor) to lend moral support to Lord Bingham of Cornhill in an attack on Michael Howard's sentencing plans in the Lords last week, intends to vote in the committee stage next week.

Rush of bids

LAW FIRMS may have been critical of the Government's

legal aid reforms, but they have not been slow to take advantage of them. There has been an unexpected rush of bids in the legal aid block contracts to be awarded by the Legal Aid Board under the first pilot of the Government's reforms. Bids have come in from more than 840.

The board is now extending the pilot from 50 to 145 firms.

● A slick new brochure from Monckton Chambers, a lead-

ing commercial set, provides telling evidence of how the higher reaches of the Bar continue to be the preserve of a tightly knit elite. Out of 23 barristers in the set, only five did not go to Oxford or Cambridge.

Insurance rise

MARTIN MEARS and Robert Sayer, who are contenders once again for the Law Society leadership this summer,

have been quick to jump on news that solicitors may face a one-off 30 per cent rise in their insurance premiums to cope with a £248 million shortfall in the Solicitors' Indemnity Fund.

The money is needed for claims over negligence and fraud in conveyancing work done in the early 1990s when the market collapsed. A 30 per cent rise means a rise for small firms of several thousand pounds.

Mr Mears and Mr Sayer were at odds with the fund during their time in office. In their latest newsletter, the pair in effect say "we told you so". They comment: "These revelations will surprise no one but the Old Guard at the Law Society."

'Red bag' first

JOHN DAVIS, a Buckinghamshire solicitor-advocate, has just been presented with a "red bag" in recognition of his advocacy skills by Rosamund Horwood-Smart, QC, who led him in a recent case.

This is the first time that a solicitor-advocate has received a red bag which is presented to junior counsel who distinguish themselves in court.

Mr Davis won the admiration of Miss Horwood-Smart after winning the argument on a point of international law in a fraud trial.

SCRIVENOR

STEUART & FRANCIS



Cuts that could worsen youth crime

Youth court magistrates must welcome the Audit Commission's timely report, *Misspent Youth*. The irony of the title will not be lost on those of us who have become increasingly frustrated with the inefficient workings of the system in these courts. It, as the report suggests, youth crime costs £1 billion a year yet the courts deal with only 3 per cent of the seven million offences committed by juveniles, something is seriously wrong either with the system of funding of the courts or their organisation.

Maybe we should just go back to basics and start to deal with the causes of juvenile crime because we don't seem to be able to cope with the results.

Most magistrates have long wanted to know the results of particular sentences so as to learn from them, yet little or no attempt is made to monitor the later behaviour of youths sentenced by the courts. What must also cause anxiety is that the report refers to supervision orders consisting sometimes of merely an hour a week with a social worker — hardly enough to be effective.

The community penalties using intermediate treatment, which were used effectively in the 1980s, led to a decline in reported offences, along with a decline in the use of custody. And most youth court magistrates will welcome the commission's stated view that custody is not only very expensive but essentially counter-productive. Eighty per cent of those sentenced in this way reoffend within two years.

The commission recommends what many of us have been saying for years that funds should go to schemes that tackle offending behaviour. The offenders' families should be involved if at all possible and victims compensated. The report estimates that if 20 per cent of young offenders prosecuted in court were warned and sent to special units dealing with offending behaviour, £40 million could be saved and spent on preventive measures. The commission recognises that these should start much earlier than at present.

Family breakdown and helplessness or even non-existent parents are commonplace circumstances in the lives of the children we see before the youth courts today. There was a time when children were brought before us for failure to attend school. In inner London we no longer see such cases, presumably because the problem has mushroomed beyond the local authorities' ability to cope. The report says that the level of truancy and exclusions from school has quadrupled in the past five years to more than 12,000 a year.

As magistrates, we are constantly trying to deal with delinquent juveniles whose back-

grounds are frequently horrendous and whose parents — often only one — cannot cope. These are the people who need help earlier before their lives start falling apart and their children end up in court. The report refers to the many different schemes around the world set up to deal with offending behaviour without recourse to the courts. These range from the Family Group Conferences in New Zealand to the Halt programme in The Netherlands, from the Scottish Children's Hearings system to the Northamptonshire Diversion Unit. There has been a lot of success with these schemes, but surely the logic must be to start much earlier and help parents to parent?

Looking after young children is a more difficult job than any other yet is little appreciated in our materialistic society. Young parents, usually but not always mothers, are often isolated and poor and, not surprisingly, find themselves unable to cope. Charities set up to help these people and thus to help to prevent family breakdown are named in the commission's report, yet these are the charities which are losing core funding.

Home Start, which has almost 200 voluntary schemes operating in the UK alone, has 5,000 volunteers helping 28,000 families. But it has seen its core funding from the Department of Health reduced from £15,000 to £8,500 since 1994.

Expenditure has risen from £700,000 to £1 million over the same period and fundraising is a permanent headache. Newpin — New Parent Infant Network — operates centres where parents and children can get together and are helped to make positive changes in their lives.

This befriending scheme and therapeutic network for carers of young children is also threatened with the withdrawal of funding from an area health authority, and two new projects may never get off the ground. But these charities are singled out in the report as examples to be followed.

The commission recommends that volunteer programmes, "where experienced parents can offer practical help and support for an hour or two a week along the lines of the Home Start and Newpin programmes", should be piloted by health and social services in high-risk areas where there are no family centres. The commission refers to possible savings of £40 million.

A few million to charities such as these would be money well spent. Cutting their funding seems positively crazy at a time when their work is increasingly vital.

● The author is an inner London magistrate.

PAULA DAVIES

Magistrate

Inner London

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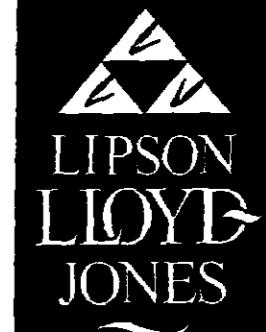
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LAW AWARDS

Free help for the equality struggle

TOP employment lawyers including Cherie Booth, QC, are offering free legal help to barristers and solicitors facing discrimination.

The new Equal Opportunities Pro Bono Unit, to be launched at the Women Lawyers' Conference on April 12, will provide confidential advice to lawyers or their staff who face discrimination because of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion or disability.

It comes after a Law Society survey showed widespread differences in the pay for men and women solicitors, a gap that widens higher up the career scale. Several law firms have faced sexual discrimination claims. They include the City law firm Sinclair Roche & Temperley, which was recently reported to have paid £30,000 to a former assistant solicitor in settlement of a sex discrimination claim, with no admission of liability.

Margaret McCabe, the barrister setting up the new unit, said the aim was to plug the gap between awareness of discrimination and "doing something about it". The idea was to provide people with advice in the first instance. "We want an informal, mediation-based approach," she said. "Litigation is in no one's interests. But litigation is the final sanction."

The one-day Women Lawyer conference in London, *Shattering the Myths*, is organised jointly by the Bar and Law Society and sponsored by *The Times*. Speakers include Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Roberta Rame, past President of the American Bar Association, and leaders of the Law Society and the Bar. Winners of the new Women of Achievement in the Law Awards will be announced.

• Details of early registration discount (before February 15) and awards nomination forms are available from Blair Communications, 0171-722 9731.



'Make the young pay'

Lord Mackay tells Frances Gibb of the need for a tougher approach to youth crime

determination to secure full payment.

He spoke of what some called "almost an adjournment culture" in the youth courts. In cases of repeat or "spree offending", courts tended to delay trial so as to deal with all outstanding charges in one go. But that meant a large gap between the original offence and any penalty. He also urged further action to ensure speedy and prompt payment of fines, to clear the jails of fine defaulters.

Both initiatives are aimed at underlining the link between the offence and its penalty — a link made tenuous by the present system. Courts, Lord Mackay said, should ask offenders there and then: "Are you going to pay today?" And where possible, they should be made to pay a large part of the fine before leaving court to "underline the punishment and the court's

page 41) that found a "disturbingly high number of adjournments in youth cases". There was an average of four appearances in the course of a youth court case (the range was two to seven appearances) which meant offenders could avoid punishment for several months. Repeated adjournments encouraged repeated offending and put victims at risk, he added. In some cases it meant offenders waiting weeks or months for a trial. Courts should only grant adjournments where strictly necessary. He emphasised that JPs were independent and would make their own decisions. But the Magistrates' Association and Justices' Clerks' Society had issued guidelines to that effect and he hoped that JPs would heed his concerns, as they had in the past, and use

The cases should go ahead as fast as possible

their powers to ensure a "firm and rapid disposal of the case".

In a second initiative, Lord Mackay urged action to cut the numbers of fine defaulters jailed. Measures launched last summer to improve fine enforcement had led to a cut of up to one third in some places in the total of unpaid fines (the estimated national total is £200 million).

If enacted, Mr Howard's sentencing plans could mean a big rise in prison numbers. But Lord Mackay insisted he favoured the use of prison as a last resort — and for serious offenders — as a matter of principle, not expediency. "We should," he said, "ensure that prison places are not taken up by people who have not paid their fines. It is not sensible for prisons to be full of petty offenders who can be dealt with in other ways."

The drive to cut jailed defaulters was paying off. In 1995, 20,000 people were jailed for not paying a fine, "dramatically" down last year to 8,800. But if fines and other non-custodial penalties were not to be seen as "getting off lightly", there had to be prompt enforcement.

Confusing the electorate

Piers Coleman on political cloning

Richard Huggett, aka Gerald Malone (aka the "Liberal Democrat") of 1994, has let it be known that he will stand for election again, this time in Winchester. It is not a coincidence that the name of the sitting MP is Gerald Malone and that Gerald Malone's name would appear above his (an inestimable advantage) on the ballot paper.

Strenuous objections were made by local Conservative and Labour parties to the inclusion of Gerald Malone on the register as an elector. Two weeks ago the Electoral Registration Officer in Winchester ruled that the name change was a "sham" and substituted the name Richard Huggett for Gerald Malone in the register. Mr Huggett has already appealed to the county court, whose decision is awaited.

Mr Huggett last stood for election to the European Parliament in June 1994 in Devon. He described himself as "Liberal Democrat". Ten thousand electors voted for him, the Liberal Democrat candidate lost by 700 votes and hundreds of electors signed statements claiming that they had been confused by his description and had voted for Mr Huggett by mistake. In the subsequent election petition, notwithstanding a huge outcry, the Election Court ruled that the returning officer had been under no obligation to consider the confusion which might arise and to reject Mr Huggett's nomination; indeed, they strongly hinted that even a "Liberal Democrat" description could not have been challenged.

If enacted, Mr Huggett's proposal could mean a big rise in prison numbers. But Lord Mackay insisted he favoured the use of prison as a last resort — and for serious offenders — as a matter of principle, not expediency. "We should," he said, "ensure that prison places are not taken up by people who have not paid their fines. It is not sensible for prisons to be full of petty offenders who can be dealt with in other ways."

The drive to cut jailed defaulters was paying off. In 1995, 20,000 people were jailed for not paying a fine, "dramatically" down last year to 8,800. But if fines and other non-custodial penalties were not to be seen as "getting off lightly", there had to be prompt enforcement.



But how can the returning officer in Winchester decide whether or not Gerald Malone should stand at the general election? There is undoubtedly authority for an officer to make inquiries about a nomination paper, and the fact that Mr. Malone may not be a registered elector could be a reason for his rejection.

Spooft candidates are now cropping up all too frequently. Deliberately confusing names and descriptions are being used. Mr Huggett says he intends to stand for nomination in Winchester in the name of Gerald Malone. Will he describe himself as a Conservative or as a Conservative or use some other description? Will the returning officer accept his nomination?

Spooft candidates and real candidates, with varied names and varied descriptions, may be planting similar electoral ambushes elsewhere. Yet the opportunity for change, so strongly hinted at by the Election Court in 1994, has not been taken.

The parties face not only known opponents but also unknown opponents who could exploit 19th-century laws used to fight a 20th-century election.

The author acted for the petitioner in the Liberal Democrat case in 1994.

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Please contact Dominique W Pengelly, Gavin Crocker or Alison Barrett (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-417 1400 or write to them at the London office for more information in complete confidence. Evenings Weekends 0181 960 6144. Confidential Fax 0171 417 1444. Email: dominiquep@garfieldrobbins.co.uk

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RACING: CHELTENHAM WILL EJECT RACEGOERS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER WINNER'S ENCLOSURE

By RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

THE prospect of an Irish victory in the Cheltenham Gold Cup — and a repeat of last year's chaotic post-race crowd scenes — has prompted an unprecedented security clampdown for next month's Festival.

Extra security staff will be backed by police in an attempt to prevent the surge by hundreds of jubilant Irishmen who burst past helpless officials into the winner's enclosure last March and swamped Imperial Call. A warning that spectators face being ejected from the racecourse if they attempt to go into the parade ring or winner's enclosure after a race will be published in the racecard and broadcast regularly over the public address system.

A reminder of the frenzy which can follow a popular Irish victory was evident at Leopardstown on Sunday after Danoli's success in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup. Danoli, Dorane, Pride and Imperial Call head the betting for the Cheltenham Gold Cup — and officials at Prestbury Park are on alert.

Edward Gillespie, managing director of Cheltenham, said yesterday: "Our job is to ensure that the pleasure of everyone at the racecourse and those watching at home is not impaired by the foolishness of the relatively few people who lose their senses."

"We have spent a great deal of time since last year's Festival examining this problem, not only because of our concern but because the matter was drawn to our attention by Gloucestershire County Council on behalf of the Department of the Environment.

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Imperial Call and O'Dwyer are engulfed by their jubilant supporters after winning the Gold Cup at the Cheltenham Festival last year

ment of Heritage, who are empowered with the Safety of Sports Ground Act. They were worried by reports of what happened last year and want to be satisfied we are competent to stage such an event."

Footage of last year's Gold Cup scenes, taken by Channel 4 cameras from its airship, has helped Cheltenham identify where and when the people were getting in the parade ring and unsaddling enclosure, "if someone falls it is

unlikely people will take any notice and trample them. Our concern is for the safety of people and horses."

New measures, tested this season, will ensure the Gold Cup winner is the last of the first four horses to enter the winner's enclosure. Last year two placed horses came after Imperial Call, which enabled a crowd of people to rush into the winner's area.

Gillespie's actions are supported by Danoli's trainer, Tom Foley, who witnessed at first hand the post-race mayhem at the entrance to the parade ring where horses go in and out. Twenty security staff, against eight last year, will be backed by police at the entrance.

"The danger is that if we fail the matter will be taken out of our hands by the authorities and severe measures may be introduced not only at Cheltenham, but at other courses."

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parade ring where horses go in and out. Twenty security staff, against eight last year, will be backed by police at the entrance.

Reflecting on the scenes at Leopardstown, he said: "I would love to have a section railed off where the horse has room to breathe. I hate to see the horse mauled so much, people get carried away. Danoli doesn't like to be confined in a small space and one day someone will get hurt. Any horse can lash out."

Foley added: "He's unhe

liefable, a bit tired today but I'll forgive him for that. He may not run again before Cheltenham. Winning the Gold Cup means a lot but Cheltenham is once in a lifetime. Sunday's race was like a World Cup qualifier, the Gold Cup is the final."

"I know in my heart we may have only one chance to win the Gold Cup. That is why it means so much."

Ladbrokes buys, page 29

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Reflecting on the scenes at Leopardstown, he said: "I would love to have a section railed off where the horse has room to breathe. I hate to see the horse mauled so much, people get carried away. Danoli doesn't like to be confined in a small space and one day someone will get hurt. Any horse can lash out."

Foley added: "He's unhe

liefable, a bit tired today but I'll forgive him for that. He may not run again before Cheltenham. Winning the Gold Cup means a lot but Cheltenham is once in a lifetime. Sunday's race was like a World Cup qualifier, the Gold Cup is the final."

"I know in my heart we may have only one chance to win the Gold Cup. That is why it means so much."

Ladbrokes buys, page 29

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Footage of last year's Gold Cup scenes, taken by Channel 4 cameras from its airship, has helped Cheltenham identify where and when the people were getting in the parade ring and unsaddling enclosure, "if someone falls it is

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New measures, tested this season, will ensure the Gold Cup winner is the last of the first four horses to enter the winner's enclosure. Last year two placed horses came after Imperial Call, which enabled a crowd of people to rush into the winner's area.

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David Miller on the hypocrisy inherent in the national character

Coaches tackle job of crossing the cultural divide

English spectators are hypocritical when it comes to personal preference. We like to pretend that we prefer the touch of a Hoddle, Brooking or Gascoigne, but deep down what we most identify with, what we subjectively but correctly believe represents our national character, is the true grit of a Stuart Pearce.

This public ambivalence leaves managers and coaches, many of them confused by the same dilemma, caught in a trap of cultural conflict: skill or strength, subtlety or predictability? It is a dilemma that stretches from the national team to the most remote schoolboy pitch. I remember watching my son in an under-11 match, and the master-in-charge shouted at a boy loafing ineffectually on the wing: "For goodness sake, go and knock someone over."

The terrier-style of Billy Wright, 90 times England captain, was more definitely English than of Matthews or Finney. Hunt, Hately and Shearer are more truly representative of our traditional strengths than Hurst, Lineker and Sheringham, never mind discarded artists such as Osgood or Le Tissier.

Building a successful club or national team depends on two basic factors: the players available and the style you want. The former mostly determines the latter. "You can't play Total Football," Howard Wilkinson, the new technical director of the Football Association, says, "if you can't all handle the ball. Even if two of the team can't, the opposing coach, if he's intelligent, will make sure those two get plenty of the ball!"

It is Wilkinson's job to introduce a coaching culture — largely absent even at the highest level — into English football. "Why are Germans and Italians technically better?" he asks. "Because they give their best players more time with the best coaches, with a higher ratio of coach to player in training. Why did Holland improve so dramatically in the Sixties, Norway in the Eighties, the United States and Turkey in the Nineties? One word: coaching."

Furthermore, Wilkinson says, we need coaching for our



The style of Billy Wright was more English than Matthews or Finney'

fected the dichotomy of styles

Jack Charlton-Moore, Bobby Charlton-Stiles, Hunt-Hurst,

but went off the rails when he veered towards the physical with Hunter-Storey, Chivers-Chammon.

Don Revie wavered for three

years then Ron Greenwood

conventionally opted for

Latchford-Keegan, followed

by Mariner-Francis. Bobby

Robson went for the old mix-

ture, Hately or Dixon-Wood-

cock until blessed with the

gifted Lineker and Beardsley.

Graham Taylor oscillated,

coaches, especially in the psychological field, so that men such as Kevin Keegan learn to control their own and their players' emotional arousal, which, in excess, can become counterproductive.

Past England managers had

greater choice than now. Wal-

ter Winterbottom exploited

both faces of national character:

Wright and the suave centre

half Franklin, Bobby Smith

and Greaves. Alf Ramsey per-

sonalised the game, reverting to

the two-tone blend, Shearer-

Sheringham.

Club managers perennially wrestle over the most effective way to play. The lower the technical quality, the more effective will be direct play — the style linked to Wimbledon — which was devised by Charles Kepp, taken up by Stan Cullis with Wolverhampton Wanderers, successfully used by Charles Hughes with the British Olympic XI and then controversially advocated by him as Wilkinson's predecessor.

Egil Olsen, the Norway

coach, is adamant about the

Keep theory. "I'm not talking

about losing it, but about

efficiency," he says. "If we had

tried to play possession foot-

ball, we'd not have done what

we have. Football is about

losing and gaining possession.

"Direct football, as I call it,

is not just based on the long

ball, but develops from the

breakdown moment of the

opposition's move,

and quickly attacking the

back of their de-

fense. When Italy

beat us in the last

World Cup, they were

more direct than we

were."

The problem, Wil-

kinson argues, is that good

players might be more effec-

tive with "direct" play, but

will lose their, and the

crowd's satisfaction from self-

expression. The two go together,

he says, yet admits the

contradiction: that when good

players are one-down with ten

minutes to go, they start

kicking the long ball, looking

for the opponent's error.

You can't deny the good

players their belief — that they

can make nine passes and

score." Wilkinson says. "The

balance is what you think you

can achieve as coach, because

you can't work without their

consent."

He emphasises the coaching

conundrum: direct play seeks

possession-from-position (getting

the ball forward quickly),

clever players seek position

from-possession. "It's a ques-

tion of priority," he says.

"At Notts County [as man-

ager], we passed the ball until

the opposition was dizzy. At

Sheffield Wednesday, taking

over in the second division, I

needed to work swiftly, and

decided fast-forward long

balls were the way."



Terry Venables reverted to the two-tone blend, Shearer-Sheringham.

Wilkinson has the task of introducing a coaching culture into English football

Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, also challenges Olsen's principle. "If you start hitting long balls, you're playing sharing-ball with the opposition, and left picking up the pieces, hoping to your advantage. With that style, you're looking for a different animal, fighters and scrappers in midfield. Would we [in England] want to play like that?"

Evans, with Liverpool's wealth, is in a position to search for sophistication. Wilkinson's ability to help the country breed better players will be crucial for clubs unable to buy good players, and dependent on local talent.

"We have to make players, and we're clutching at straws," Lou Macari, the Stoke City manager, says. "As manager

you have to not get the power to close players if they step out of line, the way Jock Stein did with us at Celtic, because there are now so few of them. You're held to ransom."

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"I try to arrange that they're paid for playing, that they receive a bonus after so many matches, instead of a signing-on fee. We've lost five players this season because they were given guarantees elsewhere."

Macari laments that, win or lose, his players are in the Sir Stanley Matthews sponsors lounge, drinking, soon after the final whistle — what irony for the maestro testocaster — and then hit the town's nightspots until the early

hours, with the manager powerless to act. Stein would have had them keelhauled.

TOMORROW

The way ahead: teaching football skills for a prosperous future

be more mobile, but it's not

just about those three, but the

whole team. Everyone has

more freedom, and no one gets

isolated, though we're still

looking to improve it."

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dependent on local talent.

"We have enough handi-

caps without imposing

another one on ourselves,"

the manager said in expla-

nation. "If he turned out to

be a world-class goalkeeper

and I had ignored him, I

would be kicking myself."

Nonetheless, the player

should return from Monaco

unconvinced.

If Andy Goram and Jim

Leighton are fit, there will

not even be a place on the

bench for Sullivan. "We

want to work with him at

close quarters," the manager

said. "We are taking him to

see if he is good enough."

While some bemoan the

coach's presence, others

feel it may be better to

allow him to escape.

It was pointed out that

Sullivan might one day play

for England if he is not

given the cap that would

establish him as a Scot. "If

he wants to defect after

the final whistle, he's not in

it," said Brown.

In addition to reaching

out to Wimbledon, Brown

has also dipped into the

past, Ian Ferguson, of Rang-

ers, and Paul McStay, of

Celtic, are restored to the

squad although they have

not been capped since re-

spective May 1994 and

March of last year. Both

of them appeared to have come

to the end of their useful life

at international level.

Ferguson's talents may

sometimes have been ques-

tioned, but recently he has

proved influential for his

club. "There is a maturity

and I notice a bit more

defensiveness in his passing,"

McStay's technique is never

RUGBY UNION

Greenwood complicates conundrum for Rowell

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

JACK ROWELL, the England coach, has a problem. It is of the type that men in his position claim to enjoy and, since this one is of his own making, he can scarcely complain — but it will not go away. What does Rowell do about his

is there a problem, one might ask, given that England began their five nations' championship defence on Saturday with 41 points against the hapless Scots? Since Phil de Glanville and Will Carling were among the try-scorers, their partnership at centre may appear to be functioning well enough.

It is, though, a holding partnership only. An enduring centre alliance needs something more, something like the complementary talents that Carling and Jeremy Guscott brought to the game in a world record 44 appearances together. You may admire de Glanville and Carling as players, but they do not offer the variety that Guscott did — and may yet still do — or that Will Greenwood, another contender, might introduce.

It was bad enough for Rowell that, when he decided that de Glanville should be his captain, he had to make a decision over Carling and Guscott in the one other berth; but Greenwood has been growing in stature for Leicester of late and indicated, against an admittedly modest Scotland A last Friday, with his leadership as well as his skills that he could cope with even greater responsibilities.

He has presence, he has as much pace as the others and he has softer hands than either Carling or de Glanville. Whether he can reproduce those skills at the highest level, only time will tell, but suffice it to say that he was the only member of the Leicester back division who could live with Brive in the Heineken Cup final last month.

Meanwhile, there is still

Guscott to consider. He is playing as well for Bath — alongside de Glanville — as at any time in the past four years: well enough to interest the British Isles selectors, who could include him and Greenwood in the preliminary 60-strong squad, to be announced next week, for the tour to South Africa this summer.

In one sense, the problem is Carling. Having laid aside the cares of captaincy, that might have been the time for a golden handshake from the management, but he has carried on making a substantial case for retention. All credit to him for that.

His break in the second half against Scotland and grub kick to the corner when he saw that Tony Underwood had been squeezed out by the defence was as fine a piece of work as anything in the match. In any case, why should Carling make life easy for the selectors? His is a substantial presence made even more vital by the number of changes that have been made in the side elsewhere.

There is not so much cement in the England brickwork that the management can afford to lose either two good decision-makers — Carling and de Glanville — at this stage. If the side matures this season in a winning context, if Tim Simpson can offer the variety from full back that he has not done yet, then England will be more than happy with their two "steely Eddie's" and may leave tinkering with the components for the time being.

Ireland, who play England in Dublin on February 15, may have confirmed the long-term appointment of Brian Ashton as coach by then. The Irish Rugby Football Union has discussed with Pat Whelan, the team manager, the situation and there is strong support among players and technical staff for the former Bath coach to be appointed up to the 1999 World Cup.

Meanwhile, there is still



Williams was not at his best yesterday but nevertheless had too much firepower for Hunter at Wembley

Hunter falls prey to Williams

By PHIL YATES

MARK WILLIAMS, who was disappointed to have relinquished his Regal Welsh Open snooker title last week, gained a measure of consolation by beating Paul Hunter 5-1 in the first round of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday.

The match, a potential showcase for two of the game's most promising exponents, did not live up to expectations. Williams failed to produce anything that approximated to top form but, even so, was considerably more potent than Hunter.

In a season where few players other than the top 16, who are automatically included in the Masters field, have shone, Hunter was awarded the sponsor's discretionary wild-card invitation.

Williams, unexpectedly beaten 6-5 by Mark King in the semi-finals of the Welsh Open, won a scrappy fourth frame to lead 3-1 before effectively sealing Hunter's fate by snatching the fifth from his grasp on the black with a clearance of 46.

Williams, who now meets John Higgins, freely admitted that an improvement in the quality of his play will be needed if he is to advance further.

"It really was a struggle so, in a way, I was pleased to win so convincingly," Williams said. "Paul can play much better than that. He was a long way from his best out there."

Nigel Bond will provide the quarter-final opposition for John Parrott after a 6-1 victory over James Wattana, of Thailand, which was delayed by a globule of oil falling from the

lighting rig on to the playing surface.

The table-fitters solved that problem with a dab of white spirit, but Wattana, who lost nine consecutive frames when beaten 13-4 by the same opponent in the second round of the world championship last year, never appeared likely to solve the puzzle as to why he was rendered ineffective by Bond's presence.

"I felt relaxed and I am practising well, but whenever I play Nigel, something always seems to be missing," Wattana said.

Bond compiled breaks of 68, 80, 63 and 59 and, in turning a 2-1 lead into 5-1, scored 294 points without reply.

For Bond, the result ended four frustrating years of participation at the Masters in which he has failed to record a single previous victory.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

HONDURAS: National prep school cross-country relay: One-11, 1:48.2; One-12, 2:02.2; One-13, 2:03.3; One-14, 2:07.1; One-15, 2:11.1; One-16, 2:15.2; One-17, 2:22.2; One-18, 2:26.1; One-19, 2:30.2; One-20, 2:34.1; One-21, 2:38.1; One-22, 2:42.1; One-23, 2:46.1; One-24, 2:50.1; One-25, 2:54.1; One-26, 2:58.1; One-27, 2:62.1; One-28, 2:66.1; One-29, 2:70.1; One-30, 2:74.1; One-31, 2:78.1; One-32, 2:82.1; One-33, 2:86.1; One-34, 2:90.1; One-35, 2:94.1; One-36, 2:98.1; One-37, 2:102.1; One-38, 2:106.1; One-39, 2:110.1; One-40, 2:114.1; One-41, 2:118.1; One-42, 2:122.1; One-43, 2:126.1; One-44, 2:130.1; One-45, 2:134.1; One-46, 2:138.1; One-47, 2:142.1; One-48, 2:146.1; One-49, 2:150.1; One-50, 2:154.1; One-51, 2:158.1; One-52, 2:162.1; One-53, 2:166.1; One-54, 2:170.1; One-55, 2:174.1; One-56, 2:178.1; One-57, 2:182.1; One-58, 2:186.1; One-59, 2:190.1; One-60, 2:194.1; One-61, 2:198.1; One-62, 2:202.1; One-63, 2:206.1; One-64, 2:210.1; One-65, 2:214.1; One-66, 2:218.1; One-67, 2:222.1; One-68, 2:226.1; One-69, 2:230.1; One-70, 2:234.1; One-71, 2:238.1; One-72, 2:242.1; One-73, 2:246.1; One-74, 2:250.1; One-75, 2:254.1; One-76, 2:258.1; One-77, 2:262.1; One-78, 2:266.1; One-79, 2:270.1; One-80, 2:274.1; One-81, 2:278.1; One-82, 2:282.1; One-83, 2:286.1; One-84, 2:290.1; One-85, 2:294.1; One-86, 2:298.1; One-87, 2:302.1; One-88, 2:306.1; One-89, 2:310.1; One-90, 2:314.1; One-91, 2:318.1; One-92, 2:322.1; One-93, 2:326.1; One-94, 2:330.1; One-95, 2:334.1; One-96, 2:338.1; One-97, 2:342.1; One-98, 2:346.1; One-99, 2:350.1; One-100, 2:354.1; One-101, 2:358.1; One-102, 2:362.1; One-103, 2:366.1; One-104, 2:370.1; One-105, 2:374.1; One-106, 2:378.1; One-107, 2:382.1; One-108, 2:386.1; One-109, 2:390.1; One-110, 2:394.1; One-111, 2:398.1; One-112, 2:402.1; One-113, 2:406.1; One-114, 2:410.1; One-115, 2:414.1; One-116, 2:418.1; One-117, 2:422.1; One-118, 2:426.1; One-119, 2:430.1; One-120, 2:434.1; One-121, 2:438.1; One-122, 2:442.1; One-123, 2:446.1; One-124, 2:450.1; One-125, 2:454.1; One-126, 2:458.1; 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ROUNDUP
Electricity
Approved

Always something there to remind you

The breathless story-so-far segment is a necessary ingredient of continuing thrillers, I know. "Last week on *Murder One* . . . was enough. Last year, to lift the stomach by an inch or two, and bring a faster pulse rate to the throat. But they are springing up everywhere now, in imitation of American networks, and it's starting to irritate. "Last week in *Common as Muck* . . . says a disembodied voice, and we sit through a maddily repetitive recap of past events, wondering why we bothered spending an hour on them last week when they could be summed up so briefly. "She steals, Nev!" "I love her, she's dead!" "I'll show the whole lot of ya!" It's like watching the 90-minute *Hamlet* devised by Tom Stoppard. Tragedy at double-speed is farce.

Presumably the idea is to inform new viewers and remind old ones, and there will come a gruesome day (mark my words) when short

recaps will appear after each advertisement break, and those of us with robust attention-spans will be obliged to hang ourselves. For the meantime, however, we must accept that a well-structured forensic pathology drama, such as *McCallum* (ITV) must spell things out every ten minutes or so: "He's a doctor, and he's killing people!" "It's the Black Death all over again!" "Joanna's going to die, isn't she?" — just to provide fodder for the recaps.

It was *McCallum*'s fourth episode last night, and it was still terrific. McCallum himself (John Hannah) has certain *Cracker* qualities — apart from being Scottish, he is also always right. While the dull-witted police inspector (who's always sweating) holds bits of the deductive jigsaw limply in his big paws, McCallum efficiently snaps the pieces together, and asks, with eyes narrowed, "But what next?" The blessing is,

that unlike Fitz in *Cracker*, McCallum uses medical science instead of mind-reading; and also unlike Fitz, he isn't clever principally for effect.

Like most viewers, I suspect, I was relieved that Dr Petit (a dastardly womaniser) turned out not to be the Black Plague spreader in last night's story. Suspicion had been piled on him so heavily by cut-aways ("But what doctor would do such a thing? *Cut to Dr Petit, in white coat, reading a chart*"), it was a miracle he could still move his legs. In the end, however, Petit proved medical ace and god of the hour, and I was glad.

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REVIEW

Lynne
Truss

Identical Twins hardly needed tricks, however. Visually, Tweedledees and Tweedledees are a gift of a subject. As the twin Ken Dodd lookalikes said, in unison: "God has given us our entrance." You can't take your eyes off identical twins. They're spooky.

I must say I quibbled with the fairground music, with its unnecessary hints of freak show. Otherwise, however, *Identical Twins*

explored questions of identity and separateness, and found its best story in David, a young professional photographer whose twin, John, had died of a brain tumour. David had always measured himself against John, competing with him fiercely, and on being left alone was now completely lost. When John first died, David couldn't look at himself in a mirror. His wife can't help; his only friend is another bereaved twin. Now David takes pictures of flowers, but always in twos. "I feel like the weaker half," he said, pitifully. "I really should have been the one, and not John."

The photography of *Identical Twins* was sumptuous and dreamy. If someone drove a car in sunlight, we saw trees and clouds reflected in the windscreen. It all added to the impression that these two lived in a private, self-reflecting world. The best shot of all showed two young black

women painting each other's lips and giggling — a picture of utter trust and dependence; a picture complete in itself.

Jeremy Paxman was on top form in *University Challenge* (BBC2). The variety of inflections this splendid male specimen can tease from the simple word "No" is a lesson to drama students everywhere. Does he prance in the bath, I wonder. He can do pertish, astonished, and dismissive, the way other people do "Tri-mim" up the sharps and flats. This is a man who, by great good fortune, was never taught in infancy to dislodge his disappointment.

One feels one should watch *University Challenge* once a year, if only to shout in pleasurable exasperation "It's Henri Cartier-Bresson, for heaven's sake! Education in this country is a joke!" and then feel instantly humbled when the students know lots of things

you don't. The students are quite clever, really. It's just a shame they always brighten up when asked to name football stadiums or identify passages from American movies.

As my colleague Matthew Bond once pointed out, in the old days half the pleasure of *University Challenge* was watching the contestants look stumped and tweedy when low culture came up. They blinked like owls in their big specs, swots defeated by pop.

Nowadays the star is Paxman, anyway — or more precisely, Paxman's breaking point. He bullies a student into naming a famous Second World War Pacific battle, and when the faltering answer "Dogger Bank" comes back, you think "This is it" and close your eyes. Yes, it's a grand show. And spare a thought for the person crouching beside Jeremy's desk, taking the cards as he finishes with them. The worst job in television, I'd call it.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (39075)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (34433)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (6093607)
9.20 All Over the Shop (1723346)
9.45 Kilroy (6081610)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (56723)
11.00 News (T) and weather (667013)
11.05 The Really Useful Show (9120297)
11.45 Smiffy's People (1931297)
12.00 News (T) and weather (8678838)
12.05pm The Alphabet Game (522907)
12.30 Going for a Song (7536742)
12.55 The Weather Show (34850988)
1.00 News (T) and weather (37520)
1.30 Regional News (66577471)
1.40 Neighbours (T) (20146182)
2.05 Snowy River: The McGregor Saga (8421742)
2.50 Smoother: The Masters (4567617)
3.30 Playdays (195452) 3.50 Casper Classics (2070013) 3.55 Hubub (759817) 4.10 Prince of Atlantis (605926) 4.35 The Mask (5643520) 5.00 Newsround (T) (7417988) 5.10 Grange Hill (1790126)
5.35 Neighbours (T) (227549)
6.00 News (T) and weather (655)
6.30 Newsroom South East (907)
7.00 Holiday Carol Smills is in New Orleans, Kathy Taylor sends a postcard from Singapore and Kevin Woodford heads for Ibiza. Plus: bargain breaks in a Scottish castle and romantic Florence (T) (4925)
7.30 Eastenders: Lorraine tries to break disappointing news to Grant (T) (891)
8.00 Children's Hospital An operation on a six-year-old girl with a rare heart condition, which causes her to suffer dizzy spells (T) (7866)
8.30 The Detectives: When the hapless duo hunt for a stolen Indian carvings rumoured to have mysterious powers, strange things begin to happen (T) (2181)
9.00 News (T), Regional News and weather (1433)
9.30 Harry Enfield and Chums: Comic sketches starring the versatile funnyman (17181) WALES: 9.30 Week in Week Out (17181)
10.00 Inside Story: Megan's Law Report on a New Jersey mother's campaign to make the identity of sex offenders public (T) (413704)
10.50 Sportsnight introduced by Gary Lineker. Football: Highlights of one of tonight's FA Cup fourth-round replays and the goals from all the other ties. Snooker: The conclusion of 1996 champion Alan McManus's match with two-times winner Steve Davis at Wembury (65095368)
12.40 FILM: Strange Brew (1985) Directed by and starring Rick Moranis and Dave Thomas. Charming comedy about two beer-swilling brothers who stumble on a master brewer's plot to take over the world by lacing each with a mind-controlling drug. (T) (757037) WALES: 12.40pm Harry Enfield and Chums (7818230) 1.10 FILM: Strange Brew (2018230) 2.40 News (T) (6155921)
2.10pm Weather (6835229)

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12.50pm Inside Story: Megan's Law Report on a New Jersey mother's campaign to make the identity of sex offenders public (T) (413704)

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2.10pm Weather (6835229)

BBC2

6.00am Open University (6957365) 6.25 Overture (6957365) 6.50 The Encyclopaedia (593346) 7.15 News (601452) 7.30 Secret Squand and Co (1822346) 7.55 Big Peter (T) (751681)
8.20 Johnson and Friends (7685704)
9.00 The Price (9122373) 9.00 Standard Grade English (8081549) 9.20 The Business Show (Collection 1721288) 9.45 Watch (T) (2013) 10.00 Playdays (T) (2013) 10.25 Come to the Castle (5799505) 10.45 Teaching Today (19727) 11.15 Le Club (7732987) 11.45 Shakespeare: Animated version of As You Like It (T) (5128) 12.00 See Hear (T) (75817) 12.30pm Working Lunch (74167)
1.00 Teaching Today (35182) 1.30 Showcase (9857501) 1.40 Hot Pothouse (House) (11861659) 2.00 Johnson and Friends (T) (6914538) 2.10 Smoother: The Masters (7625181) 2.50 A Week to Remember (TV) (3876182) 3.00 News and weather (T) (285742) 3.55 News (T) (2077295) 4.00 Smoother: The Masters (1075)

4.00pm The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (A767693)
5.25 Heartbreak High (T) (20301)
5.40 The Numbers Game: How Britain's fishermen could outwit Spanish trawlers (585094)
7.40 Smoother: The Masters Alan McManus v Steve Davis (189433)

8.00pm The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (A767693)
8.25 Heartbreak High (T) (20301)
8.40 The Numbers Game: How Britain's fishermen could outwit Spanish trawlers (585094)
10.00pm Smoother: The Masters (1075)

10.15pm Face to Face: Alan Parker (T) (616291)
11.15pm Face to Face: Alan Parker (T) (616291)

12.00pm The Midnight Hour (20358)
12.30pm Learning Zone: Open University: Climate of Opinion — Global Warming (85143) 1.30 Making the News (2000)
1.45 Newsround (T) (348653) 2.00 Nightshift TV: Square One (348653)
4.00 FILM: Practice: Teaching and Learning with IT (43245) 5.00 Inside Europe (17229) 5.30-5.59 Film Education (70817)

5.30pm Only Angels Have Wings (1939) 6.00 The Casanova of Alibi (1937) 6.30 Casanova (1937) 6.45 The Casanova of Alibi (1937) 6.50 Casanova (1937) 7.15 Casanova (1937) 7.30 Casanova (1937) 7.45 Casanova (1937) 7.50 Casanova (1937) 8.00 Casanova (1937) 8.15 Casanova (1937) 8.30 Casanova (1937) 8.45 Casanova (1937) 8.50 Casanova (1937) 8.55 Casanova (1937) 8.58 Casanova (1937) 8.59 Casanova (1937) 8.60 Casanova (1937) 8.62 Casanova (1937) 8.65 Casanova (1937) 8.68 Casanova (1937) 8.70 Casanova (1937) 8.72 Casanova (1937) 8.75 Casanova (1937) 8.78 Casanova (1937) 8.80 Casanova (1937) 8.82 Casanova (1937) 8.85 Casanova (1937) 8.88 Casanova (1937) 8.90 Casanova (1937) 8.92 Casanova (1937) 8.95 Casanova (1937) 8.98 Casanova (1937) 9.00 Casanova (1937) 9.02 Casanova (1937) 9.05 Casanova (1937) 9.08 Casanova (1937) 9.10 Casanova (1937) 9.12 Casanova (1937) 9.15 Casanova (1937) 9.18 Casanova (1937) 9.20 Casanova (1937) 9.22 Casanova (1937) 9.25 Casanova (1937) 9.28 Casanova (1937) 9.30 Casanova (1937) 9.32 Casanova (1937) 9.35 Casanova (1937) 9.38 Casanova (1937) 9.40 Casanova (1937) 9.42 Casanova (1937) 9.45 Casanova (1937) 9.48 Casanova (1937) 9.50 Casanova (1937) 9.52 Casanova (1937) 9.55 Casanova (1937) 9.58 Casanova (1937) 9.60 Casanova (1937) 9.62 Casanova (1937) 9.65 Casanova (1937) 9.68 Casanova (1937) 9.70 Casanova (1937) 9.72 Casanova (1937) 9.75 Casanova (1937) 9.78 Casanova (1937) 9.80 Casanova (1937) 9.82 Casanova (1937) 9.85 Casanova (1937) 9.88 Casanova (1937) 9.90 Casanova (1937) 9.92 Casanova (1937) 9.95 Casanova (1937) 9.98 Casanova (1937) 10.00 Casanova (1937) 10.02 Casanova (1937) 10.05 Casanova (1937) 10.08 Casanova (1937) 10.10 Casanova (1937) 10.12 Casanova (1937) 10.15 Casanova (1937) 10.18 Casanova (1937) 10.20 Casanova (1937) 10.22 Casanova (1937) 10.25 Casanova (1937) 10.28 Casanova (1937) 10.30 Casanova (1937) 10.32 Casanova (1937) 10.35 Casanova (1937) 10.38 Casanova (1937) 10.40 Casanova (1937) 10.42 Casanova (1937) 10.45 Casanova (1937) 10.48 Casanova (1937) 10.50 Casanova (1937) 10.52 Casanova (1937) 10.55 Casanova (1937) 10.58 Casanova (1937) 10.60 Casanova (1937) 10.62 Casanova (1937) 10.65 Casanova (1937) 10.68 Casanova (1937) 10.70 Casanova (1937) 10.72 Casanova (1937) 10.75 Casanova (1937) 10.78 Casanova (1937) 10.80 Casanova (1937) 10.82 Casanova (1937) 10.85 Casanova (1937) 10.88 Casanova (1937) 10.90 Casanova (1937) 10.92 Casanova (1937) 10.95 Casanova (1937) 10.98 Casanova (1937) 11.00 Casanova (1937) 11.02 Casanova (1937) 11.05 Casanova (1937) 11.08 Casanova (1937) 11.10 Casanova (1937) 11.12 Casanova (1937) 11.15 Casanova (1937) 11.18 Casanova (1937) 11.20 Casanova (1937) 11.22 Casanova (1937) 11.25 Casanova (1937) 11.28 Casanova (1937) 11.30 Casanova (1937) 11.32 Casanova (1937) 11.35 Casanova (1937) 11.38 Casanova (1937) 11.40 Casanova (1937) 11.42 Casanova (1937) 11.45 Casanova (1937) 11.48 Casanova (1937) 11.50 Casanova (1937) 11.52 Casanova (1937) 11.55 Casanova (1937) 11.58 Casanova (1937) 11.60 Casanova (1937) 11.62 Casanova (1937) 11.65 Casanova (1937) 11.68 Casanova (1937) 11.70 Casanova (1937) 11.72 Casanova (1937) 11.75 Casanova (1937) 11.78 Casanova (1937) 11.80 Casanova (1937) 11.82 Casanova (1937) 11.85 Casanova (1937) 11.88 Casanova (1937) 11.90 Casanova (1937) 11.92 Casanova (1937) 11.95 Casanova (1937) 11.98 Casanova (1937) 12.00 Casanova (1937) 12.02 Casanova (1937) 12.05 Casanova (1937) 12.08 Casanova (1937) 12.10 Casanova (1937) 12.12 Casanova (1937) 12.15 Casanova (1937) 12.18 Casanova (1937) 12.20 Casanova (1937) 12.22 Casanova (1937) 12.25 Casanova (1937) 12.28 Casanova (1937) 12.30 Casanova (1937) 12.32 Casanova (1937) 12.35 Casanova (1937) 12.38 Casanova (1937) 12.40 Casanova (1937) 12.42 Casanova (1937) 12.45 Casanova (1937) 12.48 Casanova (1937) 12.50 Casanova (1937) 12.52 Casanova (1937) 12.55 Casanova (1937) 12.58 Casanova (1937) 12.60 Casanova (1937) 12.62 Casanova (1937) 12.65 Casanova (1937) 12.68 Casanova (1937) 12.70 Casanova (1937) 12.72 Casanova (1937) 12.75 Casanova (1937) 12.78 Casanova (1937) 12.80 Casanova (1937) 12.82 Casanova (1937) 12.85 Casanova (1937) 12.88 Casanova (1937) 12.90 Casanova (1937) 12.92 Casanova (1937) 12.95 Casanova (1937) 12.98 Casanova (1937) 13.00 Casanova (1937) 13.02 Casanova (1937) 13.05 Casanova (1937) 13.08 Casanova (1937) 13.10 Casanova (1937) 13.12 Casanova (1937) 13.15 Casanova (1937) 13.18 Casanova (1937) 13.20 Casanova (1937) 13.22 Casanova (1937) 13.25 Casanova (1937) 13.28 Casanova (1937) 13.30 Casanova (1937) 13.32 Casanova (1937) 13.35 Casanova (1937) 13.38 Casanova (1937) 13.40 Casanova (1937) 13.42 Casanova (1937) 13.45 Casanova (1937) 13.48 Casanova (1937) 13.50 Casanova (1937) 13.52 Casanova (1937) 13.55 Casanova (1937) 13.58 Casanova (1937) 13.60 Casanova (1937) 13.62 Casanova (1937) 13.65 Cas

